

Annual Report *of the* New Jersey Courts

Court Year 2019 - 2020





NEW JERSEY COURTS

2020 Annual Report

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COURTS

FOR THE COURT YEAR JULY 1, 2019 - JUNE 30, 2020

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

Chief Justice
Stuart Rabner

Associate Justices
Barry T. Albin
Jaynee LaVecchia
Faustino J. Fernandez-Vina
Anne M. Patterson
Lee A. Solomon
Walter F. Timpone

Clerk of the Supreme Court
Heather Joy Baker

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF THE

**Acting Administrative Director
of the New Jersey Courts**
Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.

Chief of Staff
Steven D. Bonville

Clerk of the Superior Court
Michelle M. Smith

Counsel's Office
Meryl G. Nadler, Counsel
Nicole Langfitt, Deputy Counsel

Court and Judicial Security
Robin Morante

**Equal Employment Opportunity/
Affirmative Action**
Tonya Hopson

Information Security
Sajed Naseem

Internal Audit and Control
John Brodowski

Quantitative Research
Mark Davies

SUPERIOR COURT, APPELLATE DIVISION

Presiding Judge
Carmen Messano

Deputy Presiding Judge
Jack M. Sabatino

Clerk of the Appellate Division
Joseph H. Orlando

TAX COURT OF NEW JERSEY

Presiding Judge
Joseph M. Andresini

Clerk of the Tax Court
Cheryl A. Ryan

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS, OFFICE OF

Director
Peter McAleer

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

Director
Jack P. McCarthy III

Assistant Directors
Ron Wildmann - Technical Services & Operations
Selvi Karuppaswamy - Application Development

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, OFFICE OF

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Shelley R. Webster

Assistant Directors
Helen Livingston - Support Services
Craig D. Bailey - Human Resources
Todd McManus - Financial Services

PROBATION SERVICES, OFFICE OF

Director
Rashad Shabaka-Burns

Assistant Director
Brenda Beacham

PROFESSIONAL AND GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES, OFFICE OF

Director
Deirdre M. Naughton

TRIAL COURT SERVICES, OFFICE OF

Director
Jennifer M. Perez

Assistant Directors
Susan E. Callaghan - Criminal Practice Division
Joanne M. Dietrich - Family Practice Division
Kim Madera - Automated Trial Court Services Unit
Taironda Phoenix - Civil Practice Division
Steven A. Somogyi - Municipal Court Services



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On the cover: Built in 1787, the Gloucester County Olde Courthouse in Woodbury is a gem of colonial architecture, complete with steeple and clock. As court operations expanded, new buildings were constructed. The Olde Courthouse is primarily used now for its ceremonial courtroom.



Letter from the **Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court**



Stuart Rabner
Chief Justice

“Together, we share a responsibility to do what we can to meet the urgent needs of New Jersey citizens today and ensure a better tomorrow.”

Much like the rest of the country, and our world, New Jersey’s court system operates today in a way that would have been unimaginable just a few months ago.


Back in March, as the seriousness of the Covid-19 pandemic became clear, we were forced to find new ways to maintain the safety of our workforce while still ensuring that court functions critical to the institution of justice continued.

Within a matter of weeks, upwards of 90 percent of all Judiciary employees shifted to working from home. Judges and staff began to handle all manner of motions, conferences, and hearings by telephone and through virtual platforms. In short, we were able to maintain access to the courts for the people of New Jersey during a period of crisis unprecedented in our lifetime.

Our organization’s swift transition out of the courthouses and court offices and into virtual operations was made possible because of years of advanced planning, steps taken to build our technological infrastructure for the future, and because of the willingness and ability of our judges and staff to quickly adapt to a new way of serving the public.

Much work remains, but the pandemic has made clear just how critical the courts are to so many, whether it be a domestic violence victim in need of a restraining order, a drug court participant fighting to stay sober in stressful times, or a single mother seeking child support to pay groceries.

Together, we share a responsibility to do what we can to meet the urgent needs of New Jersey citizens today and ensure a better tomorrow. I have confidence that through our dedicated efforts, our court system will continue to confront the challenges ahead so that we can effectively respond to the needs of those who turn to the courts seeking assistance and justice.



Chief Justice



Letter from the **Acting Administrative Director of the Courts**



Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.

Acting Administrative Director of the Courts

Our court system is never more important than it is during times of crisis. The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated without question that the courts are one of the most crucial institutions in our society, a place where people can turn when they are looking for justice, or sometimes protection, especially in an emergency.

This holds especially true for already vulnerable populations, including children facing abuse or neglect, men and women living with the threat of domestic violence, and targets of potential exploitation. In these volatile times, the courts must play a crucial role in their protection.

As a Judiciary, we must remain unwavering in our commitment to fulfill our responsibility to society. Staff have already stepped up to the challenge in ways big and small: helping to make face masks for workers who remain in close contact with clients, developing new ways to connect with drug court participants and probation clients, or facilitating the finalization of adoptions.

This annual report reflects those tremendous efforts and others, such as the quick buildout of our technological infrastructure, which allowed for the transformation of an entire branch of government into a virtual operation within a few weeks in order to maintain our commitment to justice for all.

In the months to come, our judges and staff must continue to work to sustain access to justice for the people of New Jersey so that we can continue to provide them with the legal relief that they need during these challenging times.

As Dr. Martin Luther King reminded us, life's most persistent and urgent question is "What are you doing for others?" Our Judiciary answers that question through our daily efforts. We exist to serve the people of New Jersey, even – and especially - during this unprecedented crisis.

“As a Judiciary, we must remain unwavering in our commitment to fulfill our responsibility to society.”

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glenn A. Grant".

Acting Administrative Director of the Courts



Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex



New Jersey Supreme Court

The New Jersey Supreme Court is the state's highest court. Its seven justices are appointed to an initial seven-year term, after which they can be reappointed with tenure until age 70, the mandatory retirement age for all New Jersey state court judges.



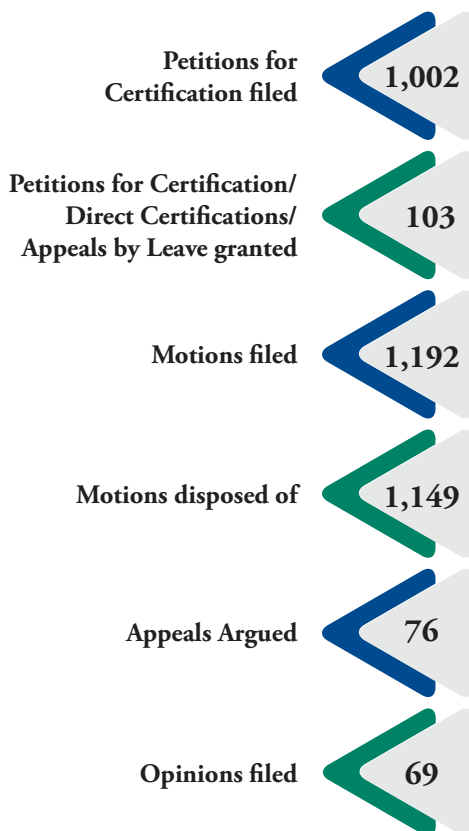
Standing from left:
Justice Lee A. Solomon
Justice Anne M. Patterson
Justice Faustino J. Fernandez-Vina
Justice Walter F. Timpone

Seated from left:
Justice Jaynee LaVecchia
Chief Justice Stuart Rabner
Justice Barry T. Albin

The Supreme Court hears appeals from the Appellate Division of the Superior Court. If an appellate panel is divided on an appeal, the parties have an automatic right to Supreme Court review. If the appellate panel is unanimous, the party that did not prevail must file a petition for certification to have the court hear the case. The court grants certification in cases involving constitutional issues, cases in which there have been conflicting rulings in the past and, in certain instances, cases of great public importance.

In addition to its judicial responsibilities, the Supreme Court oversees all aspects of Judiciary administration as well as the legal system. The court administers bar admissions through the Board of Bar Examiners. During Court Year 2020, the court admitted 2,099 new attorneys to the New Jersey bar, a 40.59 percent increase from the previous year.

Appointed in June 2007 as the eighth chief justice to lead the New Jersey Supreme Court since the 1947 state constitution, Chief Justice Stuart Rabner serves as the administrative head for the court system, overseeing the management of the state's courts. He received tenure in June 2014.

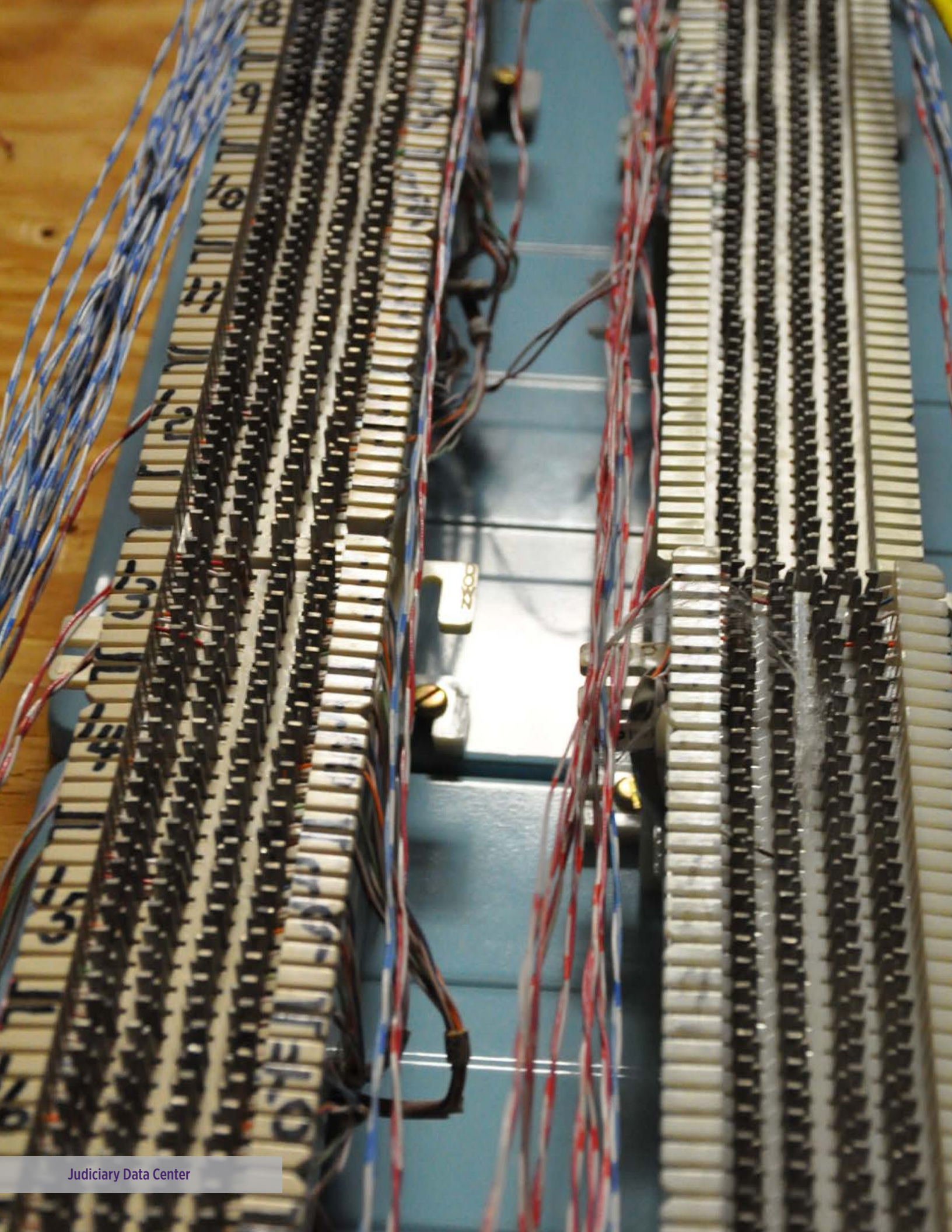


Attorney Oversight

The Supreme Court oversees the attorney discipline system, including the Office of Attorney Ethics (OAE) and the Disciplinary Review Board (DRB). The OAE investigates allegations of attorney misconduct and coordinates the work of the state's 18 district ethics committees and 17 fee arbitration committees to help ensure the integrity of the legal profession.

Its recommendations for final discipline are reviewed by the DRB, which conducts a second investigation, hearing and review. Recommendations for disbarment are reviewed by the Supreme Court, which issues an order to show cause and offers each attorney in danger of disbarment the opportunity for oral argument. DRB decisions for lesser sanctions are usually final, except in cases where an attorney requests Supreme Court review.

The Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection also is overseen by the Supreme Court. The fund, which is supported by annual payments from the state's lawyers and judges, provides reimbursement to victims of attorneys who have been suspended or disbarred for knowing misappropriation of client funds or deemed disability inactive or passed away. During Court Year 2020, the fund approved \$5,232,523.01 to reimburse clients for losses caused by 27 attorneys.



Appellate Division, Superior Court

The Appellate Division of the Superior Court is the state's intermediate appellate court. It hears appeals and interlocutory motions from the Superior Court, the Tax Court and from state administrative agencies.

Appeals Filed **5,021**

Motions Filed **9,254**

Appeals Decided **5,671**

Motions Decided **9,368**

Opinions Filed **2,729**

Published Opinions **123**

The 32 appellate judges are selected by the chief justice from among the state's Superior and Tax Court judges. Generally, each of the Appellate Division's eight parts includes four judges, the most senior of whom serves as the presiding judge who oversees case flow. Each case is decided by a two- or three-judge panel. The panels issue their decisions in the form of written opinions that are either "published," meaning they set precedent and can be used as case law in future court cases, or "unpublished," meaning they have applicability to the parties in that appeal.

The presiding judge for administration of the Appellate Division works closely with the Appellate Division Clerk's Office to manage the work of the division. Judge Carmen Messano was named presiding judge for administration on June 26, 2013. He is assisted by Judge Jack Sabatino, who serves as the division's deputy presiding judge for administration.



**Appellate Presiding Judge
Carmen Messano**



New Jersey Courts August 27, 2019

Today started the first of a two-day seminar for the New Jersey Judiciary's Appellate Division, Supreme Court, and Tax Court law clerks. The sessions cover everything from personnel matters to code of conduct. We wish them well in this coming court year.



Local Property

Cases Docketed 12,933

Cases Reinstated 99

Judgments Entered 12,649

State Cases

Cases Docketed 110

Cases Reinstated 2

Judgments Entered 165

Pending Cases

Total Local Property Cases Pending 36,047

Total State Tax Cases Pending 407

Pending as of June 30, 2020 36,454

New Jersey Tax Court

The Tax Court Management Office accepts and processes cases submitted for filing, assigns local property and state tax cases, prepares calendars and judgments, responds to attorney and litigant inquiries and provides procedural guidance.

The 12 Tax Court judges hear appeals of tax decisions made by county boards of taxation. They also hear appeals on decisions made by the director of the Division of Taxation on such matters as state income, sales and business taxes, and homestead rebates. The Tax Court heard matters dealing with the following case types in Court Year 2019-2020.

Statewide Case Type



Standing from left:
Judge Jonathan A. Orsen, Judge Mark Cimino, Judge Kathi F. Fiamingo, Judge Joshua D. Novin, Judge Michael J. Gilmore and Judge Joan Bedrin Murray.

Seated from left:
Judge Christine M. Nugent, Judge Vito L. Bianco, Presiding Judge Joseph M. Andresini, Judge Mala Sundar and Judge Mary Siobhan Brennan.







Trial Courts

Criminal Division
Civil Division
Family Division
Chancery Division
Municipal Division



Criminal Division

The Criminal Practice Division is part of the Trial Court Services section of the New Jersey Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). Criminal Practice consists of two major units: Pretrial Services and Criminal Court Services.

The primary function of the Criminal Practice Division is to provide support and assistance to all criminal division judges and staff in the vicinages through the development and implementation of operational standards and best practices, training, evaluation, monitoring and preparation of various statistical reports and manuals.

The Pretrial Services Unit oversees the statewide implementation of Criminal Justice Reform and provides support and training to the staff in the Pretrial Services Unit in each vicinage. The Criminal Court Services Unit is tasked with providing assistance regarding the general operation of the criminal trial courts.

Criminal Justice Reform

New Jersey's county jail population under Criminal Justice Reform continued to include an increasing percentage of defendants accused of serious crimes and a decreasing percentage of low-risk defendants unable to pay bail.

The Judiciary's Annual Report on Criminal Justice Reform showed that defendants charged with serious crimes make up the largest percentage of New Jersey's pretrial jail population. Additionally, the vast majority of defendants released pretrial continued to return to court without being charged with a new offense.

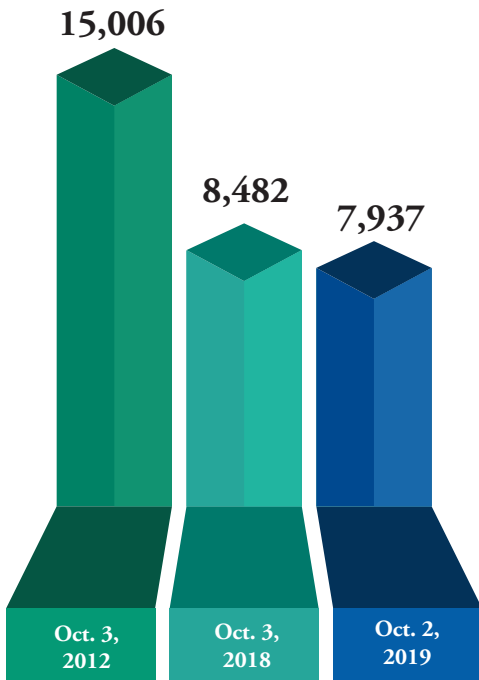
The report also showed a disparity of the jail population by race. Although the total jail population continued to decrease, the racial and ethnic makeup within that population remained largely the same. Black defendants continued to make up a disproportionate percentage of the total jail population relative to their representation among those issued complaints and those issued warrants. The COVID-19 public health emergency, which took hold in New Jersey in March 2020, necessitated a temporary halt to grand jury proceedings and criminal trials, resulting in an increase in the pretrial jail population for the first time since CJR was implemented in 2017.

Extreme Risk Protective Orders

The Judiciary developed guidelines for Extreme Risk Protective Orders (ERPO), effective Sept. 1, 2019, which prohibit a person who poses an immediate and present danger of bodily injury to self or others from owning, purchasing, possessing, or receiving firearms or ammunition, or from securing or holding a firearms purchaser identification card, a permit to purchase a handgun, or a permit to carry a handguns.

ERPOs are first considered for issuance on a temporary (TERPO) basis and then as a final order (FERPO).

Total Jail Population



Extreme Risk Protective Orders July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Petitions entered 357

TERPOs granted 312

TERPOs denied 40

FERPOs granted 133

FERPOs denied 41



LEK

Civil Division

The civil division coordinates the development and implementation of civil rules and improved court procedures and supports the local civil divisions in each vicinage.

The civil division of the Superior Court resolves cases of monetary damages ranging from small claims through complex commercial litigation. While the circumstances of each case are unique, the division has developed a series of best practices for each type of case to ensure statewide consistency and timely resolution for litigants.

Litigants seeking damages \$3,000 or less or for a return of a security deposit of \$5,000 or less file in Small Claims court where the goal for resolution is two months. Cases involving damages of \$15,000 or less are filed in the Special Civil Part, with a resolution goal of four months. Cases valued at more than \$15,000 are filed in the Civil Part of the law division and are to be resolved in 12 to 24 months, depending on their complexity. Tenancy cases are considered to be in backlog when they are not resolved in two months.

The civil division also handles cases with common characteristics such as large numbers of claims associated with a single product, mass disaster or complex environmental and toxic torts that are designated by the Supreme Court as multicounty litigation and assigned for centralized management in one of three counties: Atlantic, Bergen or Middlesex.

Complex Business Litigation Program

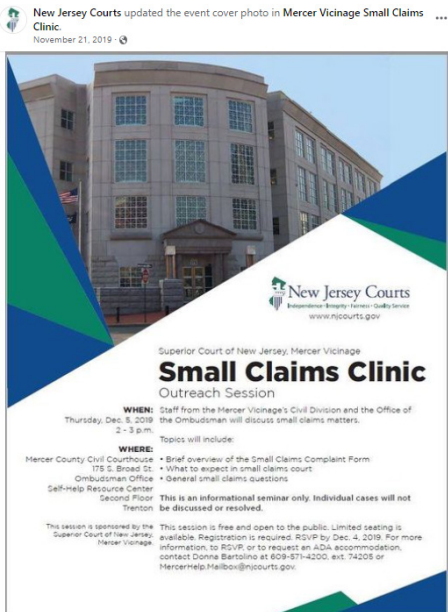
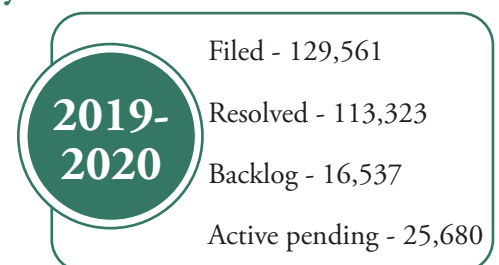
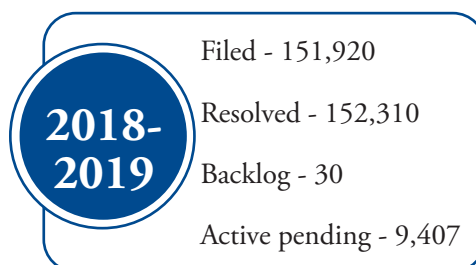
Under the Complex Business Litigation Program, judges with specialized training in business issues use their expertise to streamline and expedite commercial or construction cases that involve disputes of \$200,000 or more. This approach helps foster the development of case law that aids all parties in business litigation.

Special Civil Part

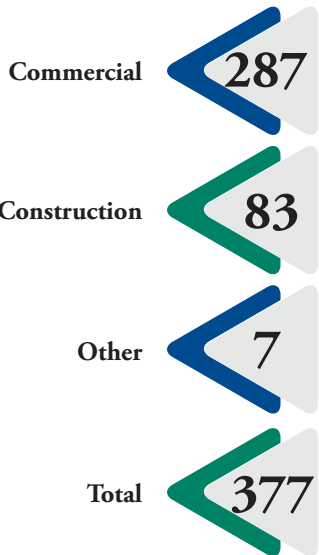
The Special Civil Part is comprised of three dockets: DC, Small Claims and Landlord Tenant. Actions by a landlord seeking to evict a tenant are filed in the Landlord Tenant section of the Special Civil Part.

As a result of the March 2020 moratorium the Governor placed on certain evictions, the Supreme Court suspended landlord tenant trials. Since the March 16 suspension, more than 17,200 complaints were filed, docketed and served during the court year in addition to the 12,500 cases that were pending as of that time.

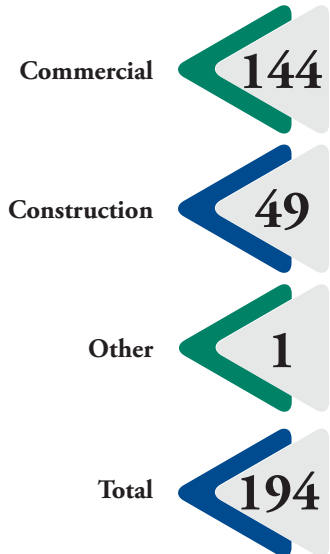
Tenancy Cases



CBLP Statewide Cases Filed



CBLP Statewide Cases Resolved





Family Division

The primary function of the family division is to develop and implement policies, procedures and best practices in the vicinages and to support state-level committees to advance the goals of the Judiciary in family-related areas.

The family division provides an impartial forum for couples to resolve disputes including divorce, dissolution of civil unions, termination of domestic partnerships, child support, custody and visitation. The division also hears matters of domestic violence, juvenile delinquency, child abuse and neglect, termination of parental rights, adoption and kinship guardianship.

The division strives to hear these matters quickly to provide important court protections such as restraining orders for victims of domestic violence, out-of-home placements for children in unsafe family situations, and orders protecting other vulnerable litigants.

Judges and staff receive training in the emotional and cultural contexts that could complicate family cases as they work to meet the short time goals assigned to most family case types.

Adoptions

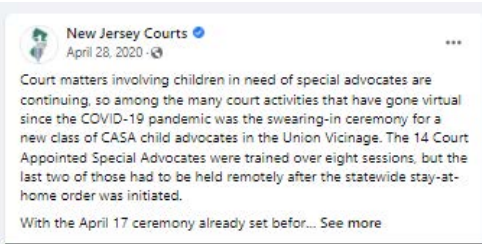
When schools began to close their doors in response to the COVID-19 health crisis, Amy Liszt immediately became concerned that the scheduled adoption of the spunky little 3-year-old boy she and her husband Eric had fostered would be put on hold. It wouldn't.

The Liszt family adopted their son Will on March 27, 2020, during a virtual proceeding before Warren County Superior Court Judge Hackyoung Suh as one of the first remote adoptions conducted during the pandemic.



The Liszt family stands outside their Flemington house after a judge in Warren County finalized the adoption of 3-year-old Will via video conference.

(Photo courtesy of David Norton).



33,731
total new domestic violence filings

8,270
reopened domestic violence cases

When Judiciary employees began working remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic, victims of domestic violence applied for temporary restraining orders at their local police department while courthouses were operating remotely.



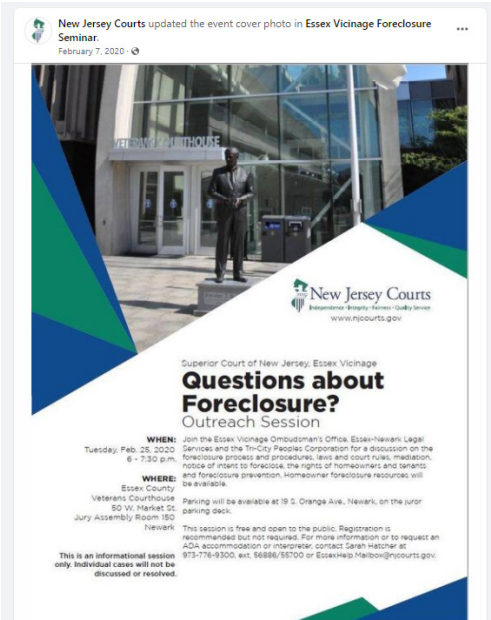
“
It was a thousand times better than what I would have anticipated.
- Amy Liszt
”



Chancery Division

Cases in the chancery division, general equity, involve non-monetary disputes such as business dissolution issues, trade secrets, restrictive covenants, labor injunctions and mortgage and tax foreclosure actions. Cases in the chancery division, probate part, involve matters such as contested decedents' estates, trust actions, and guardianships of incapacitated adults. General equity and probate cases are heard without a jury by a specially assigned judge within the chancery division.

The Office of Foreclosure did not review or recommend motions or judgments received on or after March 1, 2020. Commercial foreclosure trials continued during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the courts withheld post-judgment action, including the issuance of writs of possession.



Foreclosure Complaints by County (July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020)

County	Total
Atlantic	1,000
Bergen	889
Burlington	1,108
Camden	1,684
Cape May	220
Cumberland	453
Essex	1,704
Gloucester	788
Hudson	158
Hunterdon	515
Mercer	843
Middlesex	1,020
Monmouth	1,002
Morris	581
Ocean	1,313
Passaic	816
Salem	275
Somerset	417
Sussex	472
Union	886
Warren	284
Grand Total	16,429

Probate Complaints

Total 6,038

General Equity Complaints

Contested Foreclosure 1,704

Non-Foreclosure Equity 2,471

Total 4,175

Total Foreclosure Complaints

CY 2019-20 16,429

Total Foreclosure Judgments

CY 2019-20 9,765



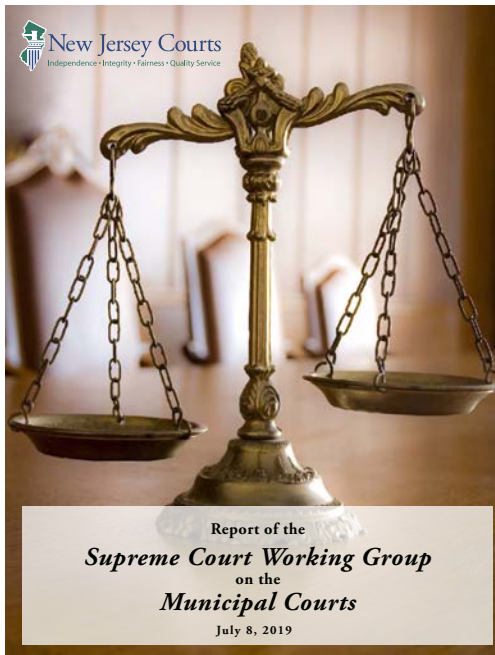
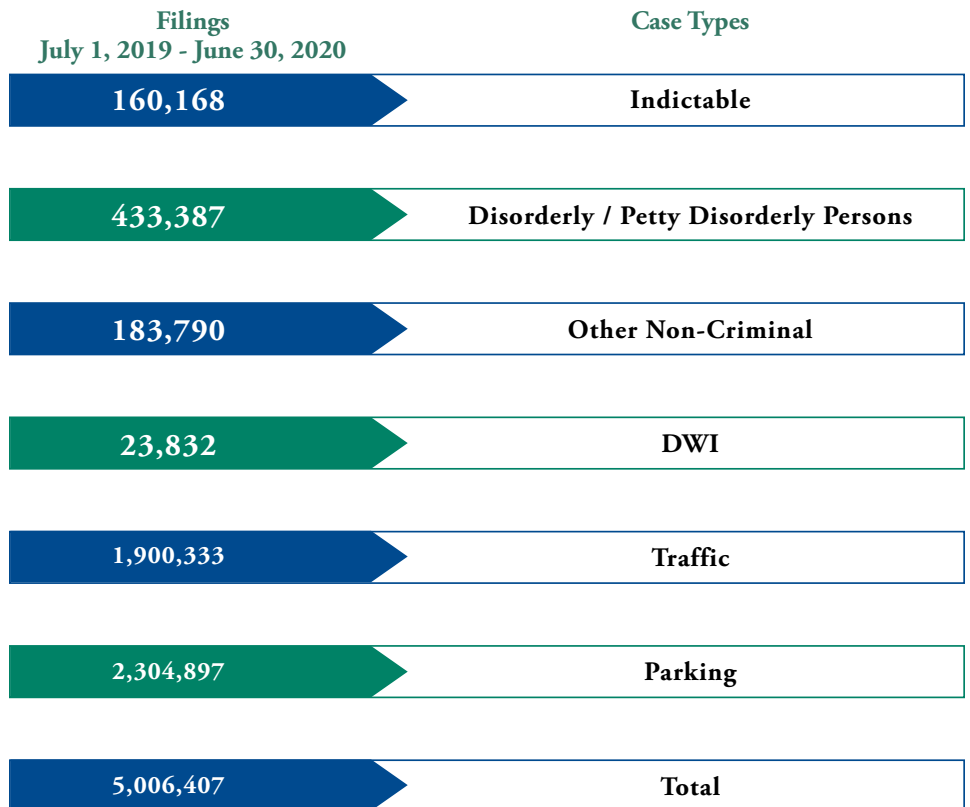
Municipal Division

The municipal courts in New Jersey are considered courts of limited jurisdiction, having responsibility for motor vehicle and parking tickets, minor criminal-type offenses, municipal ordinance offenses and other minor offenses. A municipal court usually has jurisdiction only over cases that occur within the boundaries of its municipality.

Municipal Court Reform

The Supreme Court Working Group on the Municipal Courts issued a report in July 2019 outlining 17 recommendations that focus on separating sentencing practices from a municipality’s need for revenue, modifying the appointment and reappointment process for municipal court judges, and consolidating the state’s smaller courts. More than half of the report’s recommendations focus on reducing the reliance on fees as a source of revenue through changes in collection and enforcement practices and the creation of alternative programs.

The Judiciary implemented its Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) program in mid-May in about 30 municipal courts before eventually expanding to all municipal courts. The program allows court users to dispute a charge and provide information or evidence to municipal prosecutors online. The ODR program applies to more than three dozen traffic offenses such as speeding or failure to yield, where defendants commonly provide additional documentation and seek a reduced charge before pleading guilty.



“Notwithstanding built-in pressures that the structure of the system creates, our municipal courts have made important strides in recent years. At the same time, there is room for further improvement.”

- Chief Justice Stuart Rabner

Technology in the Courts

As COVID-19 started to take a firm grip on the state in early March 2020, the mission became clear:

In-person court matters would no longer be possible. New jury pools could no longer be summoned. The work of the courts would need to continue, but in a way that did not jeopardize the health and safety of lawyers and judges and all who work in or visit New Jersey's courthouses.

“We needed to transform an entire branch of government into a virtual operation in short order,” said Chief Justice Stuart Rabner. “And then we needed to offer training to judges and attorneys and help them transition into a new way of practicing law.”

In one week, the Judiciary went from having 21 pre-COVID virtual courtrooms, which supported weekend first appearance hearings under Criminal Justice Reform, to 300 virtual courtrooms for routine court matters that can be streamed live to the public simultaneously.

Attorneys have had to adjust to justices, judges and staff now handling all types of motions, conferences, and hearings by telephone and with Zoom, Scopio, and Microsoft Teams virtual platforms.

Staff in the 15 vicinages have been working to get tens of thousands of attorneys trained in the use of these virtual platforms to make the transition smooth for the lawyers and to assure that their clients are afforded the relief they are due, in a timely manner.

In short order, some judges, like Superior Court Judge Sohail Mohammed of the Passaic Vicinage, trained more than 1,000 attorneys from across the state on the use of Zoom. IT staff also trained hundreds of judges across the state on how to operate their new virtual courtroom.

From the start of virtual hearings on March 16 to April 30, New Jersey courts held 13,779 virtual proceedings involving 109,479 participants.

Adoptions, weddings, drug court hearings and a host of other proceedings are all continuing from the safe confines of home during the COVID-19 health crisis. In the Supreme Court, the seven justices ‘convene’ from their separate chambers as attorneys argue their cases remotely. Just as before the pandemic, the events are streamed live over the Judiciary’s website, njcourts.gov.

Attorneys argue appellate matters telephonically before judges who, instead of sitting on the bench, are also working remotely. While jury trials remain suspended, Superior Court judges in the criminal and law divisions still handle full calendars. Judges in Chancery held trials virtually.

While the proceedings have taken on a different feeling outside of the courtroom, they still have the common thread of continuing the court’s business and protecting the litigants’ constitutional rights and entitlements to having their matters heard quickly.





Judiciary Electronic Document Submission (JEDS) System

The Judiciary in April 2020 expanded its electronic court filing system to better accommodate attorneys and self-represented litigants during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Judiciary Electronic Document Submission (JEDS) system allows attorneys and self-represented litigants to submit their filings electronically in most areas of family and Special Civil parts as well as general equity. The Judiciary continued to add case types as the system developed further.

While the JEDS system was in development before the pandemic, it was made available sooner in light of the courts' suspension of most in-person proceedings and matters in an attempt to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Types of matters for JEDS filings in the family part:

- Documents related to divorce
- Post-divorce motions
- Child custody/parenting time
- Child support applications and modifications

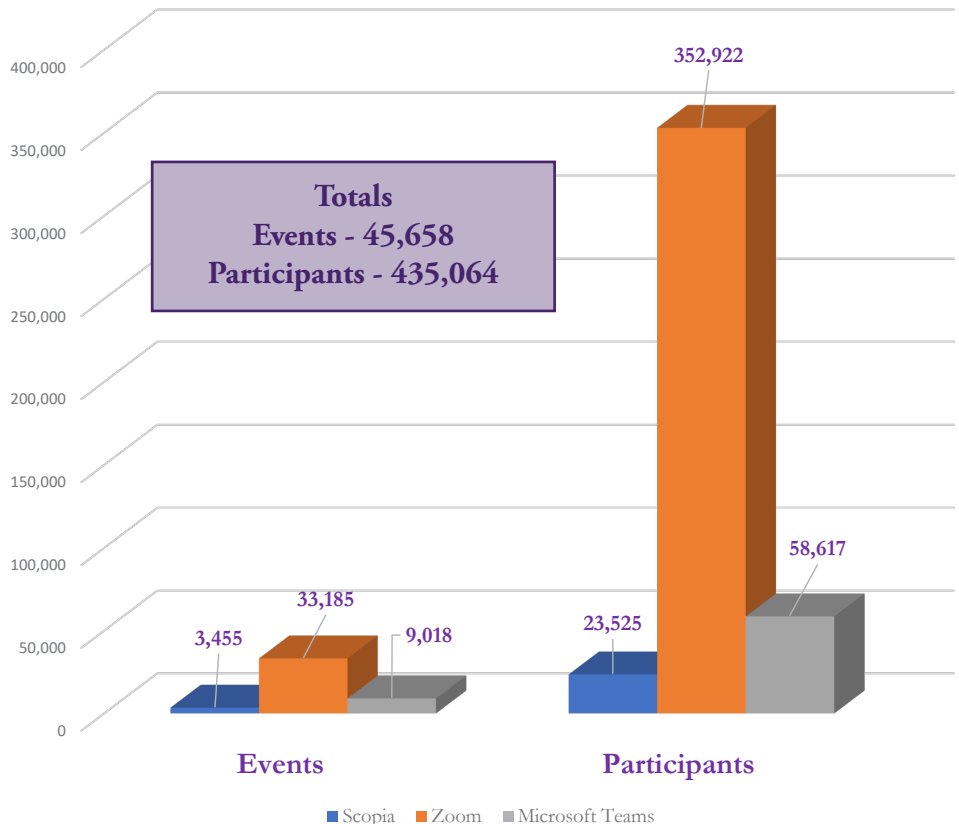
Types of matter for JEDS filings in Civil, Special Civil, law division, general equity, and foreclosure:

- Complaints
- Answers
- Motions

By November 2020, there were 197,947 documents filed through the JEDS system.

Remote Events and Participants

March 16, 2020 - June 30, 2020





Probation Services

The Office of Probation Services provides monitoring and enforcement of court orders from the Family, Criminal and Municipal courts and manages the Adult and Juvenile Intensive Supervision programs along with the drug court program.

\$37,671,857.74

total expected probation fees/fines

\$5,926,509

paid probation fees/fines

The Office of Probation Services reached an important milestone. In September 2018, the New Jersey Judiciary began a year-long process to train probation division chiefs, assistant chiefs, court service officers, probation officers, and Intensive Supervision Program (ISP) staff on Core Correctional Practices (CCP). CCP aims to reduce recidivism by focusing on teaching clients how to engage in long-term behavior change. As of Sept. 3, 2019, more than 1,100 staff have been trained through 44 CCP sessions.

Probation Services provides guidance and oversight to more than 1,900 probation officers across the state and includes critical programs such as Child Support Enforcement, the Comprehensive Enforcement Program, Adult and Juvenile supervision, the Interstate Compact, and the Intensive Supervision Program.

Child Support Enforcement Program

The Child Support Enforcement Unit seeks to promote the welfare and safety of children, families and communities through the enforcement of orders of support issued by the court. The 21 local divisions monitor and enforce more than 257,000 child support cases in New Jersey. The unit is responsible for the collection of child and spousal obligations, medical support and alimony.

257,166

child support caseload as of June 2020

1,329,495,500

child support collections

70.5%

current child support obligations collected for July 2019 to June 2020

Intensive Supervision Program

The Intensive Supervision Program (ISP) allows non-violent offenders to serve the remainder of their prison sentences under a highly structured form of community supervision that is more rigorous than traditional parole. Probation officers provide a high level of supervision to this carefully selected group of offenders who are approved by a panel of judges for release. ISP officers oversee many aspects of the participants' daily lives, including their living arrangements, employment, curfews, budgeting and performance of community service. The program saved the state more than \$31 million, or more than \$38,000 per participant, in Court Year 2019-20.

Drug Court Program

The Drug Court Unit focuses specifically on the advancement and operation of the drug court in each vicinage. The Judiciary's drug court program, which addresses non-violent, addicted offenders, requires completion of four phases of intensive drug and alcohol treatment and recovery, under court supervision. The New Jersey drug court program started as a pilot in 2001 and expanded statewide the following year.

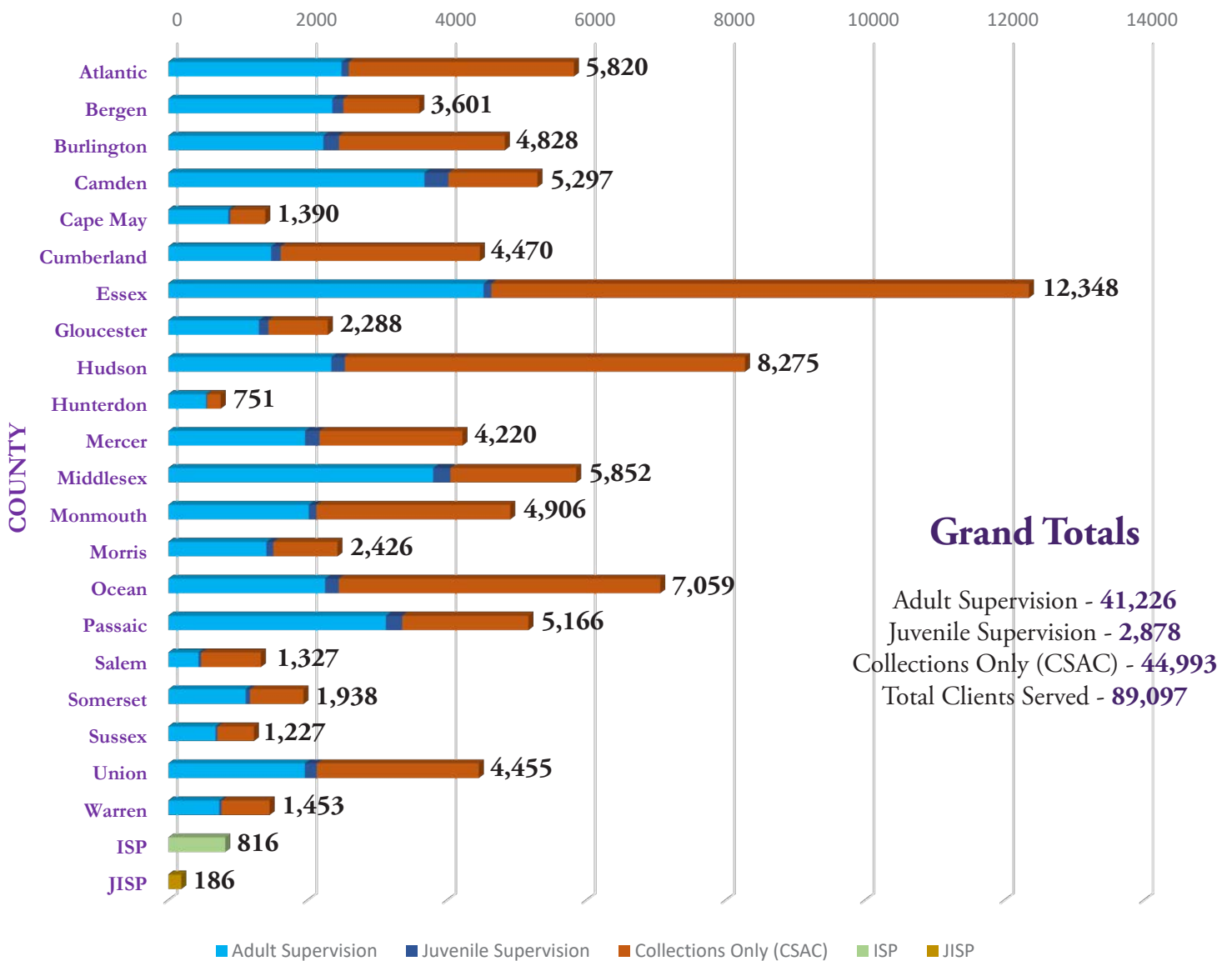




Probation Services by the Numbers

Court Year 2019 - 2020

CLIENTS



Supervision

On June 30, 2020, probation services was actively supervising 41,226 adults and 2,878 juveniles statewide.

Field Work

Probation officers conducted 19,555 inspections and 65,968 visits of clients' homes during Court Year 2019-2020.

Community Service

Probation clients performed 70,639 hours of community service during Court Year 2019-2020.



Addressing the Needs of Society

In addition to drug court, the Judiciary oversees a number of initiatives that work to confront some of the most intractable problems facing society. Judiciary programs work to safeguard the assets of the elderly and the incapacitated, refer veterans to mental health counseling and other needed services, and respond to the needs of victims of domestic violence and human trafficking.

Mental Health Advisory Committee

The new advisory committee formed by the Supreme Court seeks to identify ways to better serve those with mental illness in their interaction with the justice system.

The Mental Health Advisory Committee includes representatives from all three branches of government as well as health care providers, mental health advocacy groups, the Department of Human Services, local law enforcement, the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Public Defender.

The committee takes a system-wide look at the issues surrounding the criminal justice system's handling of matters involving individuals with mental illness. It also looks for ways to improve access to mental health services.

Municipal Online Dispute Resolution Program

The Judiciary implemented changes to municipal court operations that allow for members of the public to resolve their case without having to appear in person.

The Judiciary's Online Dispute Resolution program allows court users to dispute a charge and provide information or evidence to municipal prosecutors online. The program applies to traffic offenses such as speeding, failure to have an insurance card, or failure to yield, where defendants commonly provide additional documentation and seek a reduced charge before pleading guilty.

Interactive Juror Summons Process

The Judiciary introduced an interactive juror summons process that allows prospective jurors to interact with the court in real time.

A single postcard replaced the letter-size paper summons mailed to prospective jurors advising them of the date and location of jury duty and providing instructions to complete an online qualification questionnaire.

A portal allows prospective jurors to ask questions or request deferrals or postponements online for quicker responses.

Annually, more than 1 million New Jersey residents are summoned to potentially serve as jurors in the state courts.

New Jersey Courts
Published by MA Spoto · November 14, 2019

Wednesday was the first meeting of the new Mental Health Advisory Committee, which was formed by the Supreme Court to identify ways to better serve those with mental illness in their interaction with the justice system.

The 43-member committee includes representatives from all three branches of government as well as health providers, mental health advocacy groups, local law enforcement, the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Public Defender.



New Jersey Courts
August 12, 2019

The Supreme Court Working Group on Municipal Courts has advanced its recommendations for reforming New Jersey's municipal courts. Here is the report:
<https://www.njcourts.gov/.../2019/supremectwrkgrp.pdf>



New Jersey Courts

The new interactive juror summons process has started in Cape May and Burlington counties.
<https://www.njcourts.gov/public/pr.html...>

You have been summoned to serve as a Petit Juror on August 12, 2019 at the Mercer County Civil Courthouse. Your Term of Service is 1 week or 1 trial.

You must complete a brief juror qualification questionnaire. Respond within seven days at: [njcourts.gov/jury/service](https://www.njcourts.gov/jury/service)

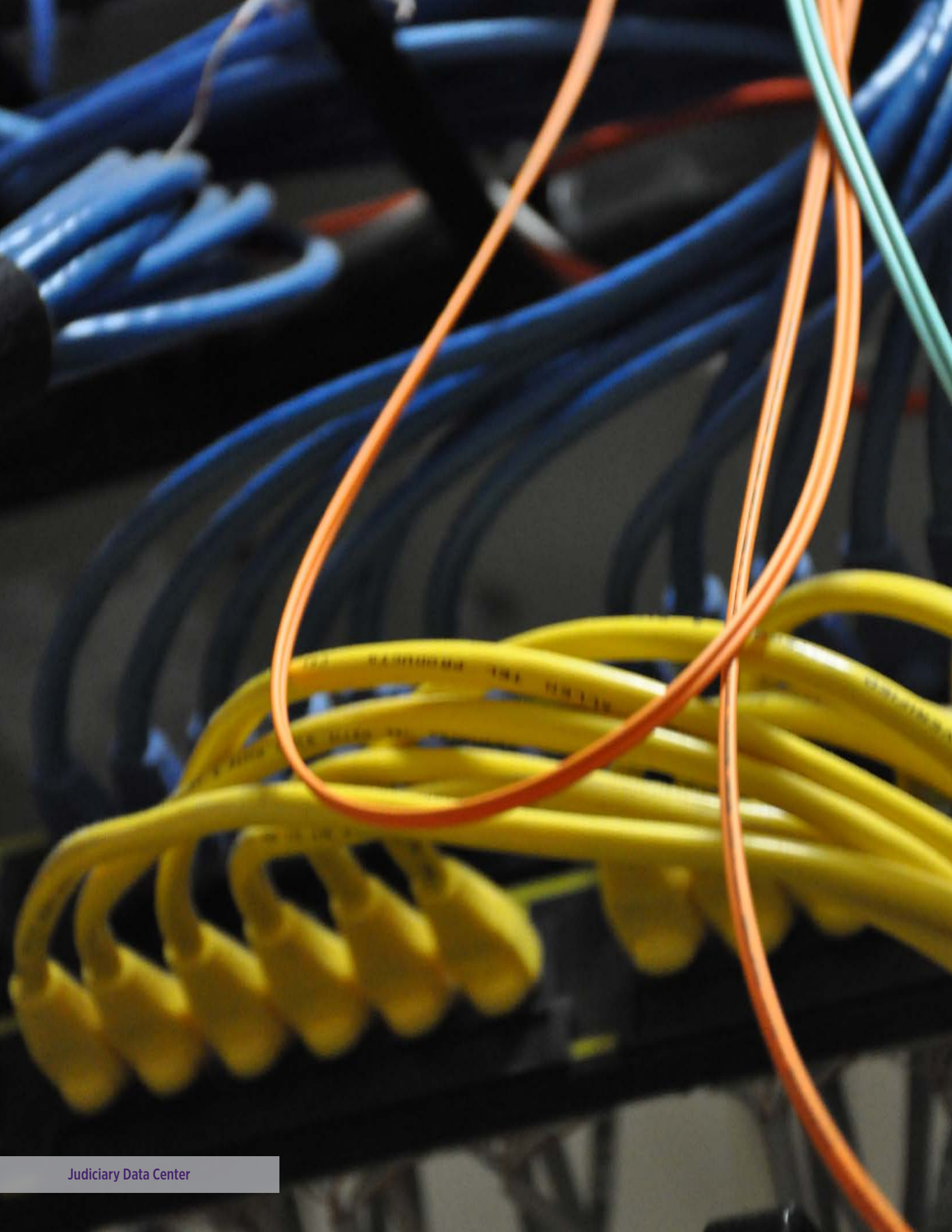
Jurors report to:
Superior Court of New Jersey
Mercer County Courthouse
175 South Broad Street, 2nd Floor
Trenton, NJ 08608

Candidate ID: 000000001
Juror No: 00001
John Doe

Mary C. Jacobson
Assignment Judge

Jury Management Office
TEL: (609) 571-4375
Mer.Jury.Mailbox@tts.judiciary.state.nj.us
The New Jersey Judiciary acts, with advanced notice, provide accommodations consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

If qualified to serve, you must check for updated reporting instructions after 5:30 p.m. on the night before you are to report by calling (609) 571-4510 or going to www.njcourts.gov/jury/service



6,186
active participants in FY 2019-20

870
graduates in 2019-20

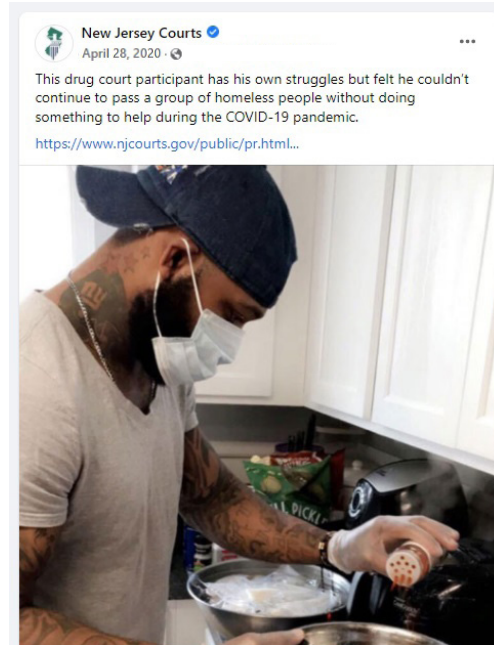
1,723
graduates who have had their criminal records expunged

764
drug-free babies born since the program's inception

6,795
Since the New Jersey Judiciary's drug court program went statewide in 2002, 6,795 participants successfully graduated from all phases of the Judiciary's drug court program.

Drug Court Program

The Judiciary's drug court program operates within the Superior Court to help non-violent defendants overcome alcohol and drug dependencies while resolving related criminal charges. The program offers a tightly structured regimen of treatment and recovery that provides graduates with the skills needed to stay sober and out of prison so they can regain custody of their children and contribute to society again. Drug court was made mandatory by law by 2017.



One Judge, One School Program

The vicinages continued their interactions with local schools in Court Year 2019-2020 through the One Judge/One School Program, which provides thousands of students with insights into the workings of New Jersey courts. Through the program, judges visit schools or students visit courthouses to learn more about how the Judiciary operates. After COVID-19 restricted in-person events beginning in March 2020, schools held these sessions remotely.



Students from Elizabeth High School's Halsey Academy spent the morning today observing court operations in Union County, where Superior Court Judge William A. Daniel opened his courtroom as part of the vicinage's Judges and Schools program.



12:55 PM · Feb 21, 2020 · TweetDeck





Judiciary Data Center

Access and Fairness in the Courts

To ensure that the Judiciary, as an institution, embraces access and fairness as an integral part of its core values, Chief Justice Stuart Rabner created the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Access and Fairness. The work of the committee helps set the tone for the operation of the Judiciary for the next quarter century and beyond.

Judiciary Enhanced Education and Training Initiative

The Judiciary in July 2019 implemented the “Judiciary Enhanced Education and Training Initiative,” which focuses on an enhancement of existing training for judges in the areas of sexual assault, domestic violence, implicit bias and diversity.

Video Remote Interpreting

Pre-pandemic, the vast majority of interpreting in New Jersey courts was done on site. Use of remote interpreting services, which included only telephone interpreting for spoken languages and video remote interpreting (VRI) for sign languages, was very limited. The COVID-19 pandemic required policy and technology updates that allowed for significant improvements to spoken and sign language remote interpreting services.

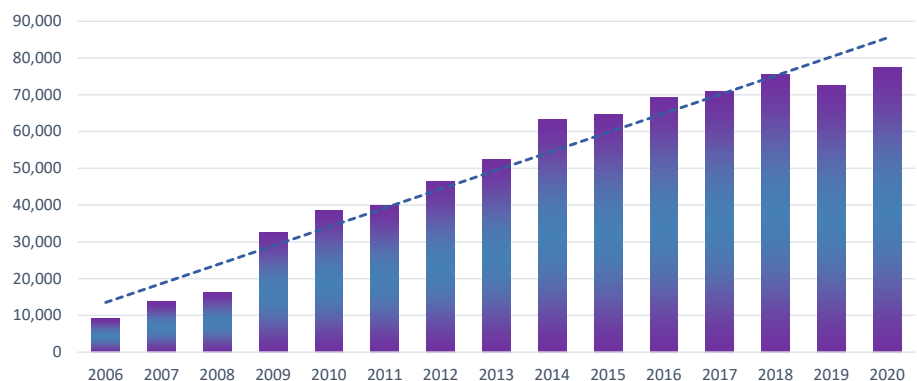
When possible, spoken language VRI now can be done in sight, consecutive and simultaneous modes, making it very similar to onsite interpreting. Sign language VRI was significantly improved with the use of a certified deaf interpreter. While the Judiciary continued to provide access to the deaf and hard of hearing as well as non-English speaking individuals with improved remote interpreting services, the number of sign and spoken language interpreting events decreased because of fewer events held during the pandemic.

Ombudsman Program

The Judiciary Ombudsman Program provides a variety of services to meet the expectations of court users, who are increasingly composed of self-represented litigants. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the New Jersey Judiciary shifted to remote operations as of March 16, 2020. While the number of individuals who appear in court without the benefit of an attorney continues to increase annually, the number of individuals assisted decreased slightly during the pandemic.

Statewide Ombudsman Contacts

2010-2019



Interpreting Services
201-748-4400 EXT. 66602

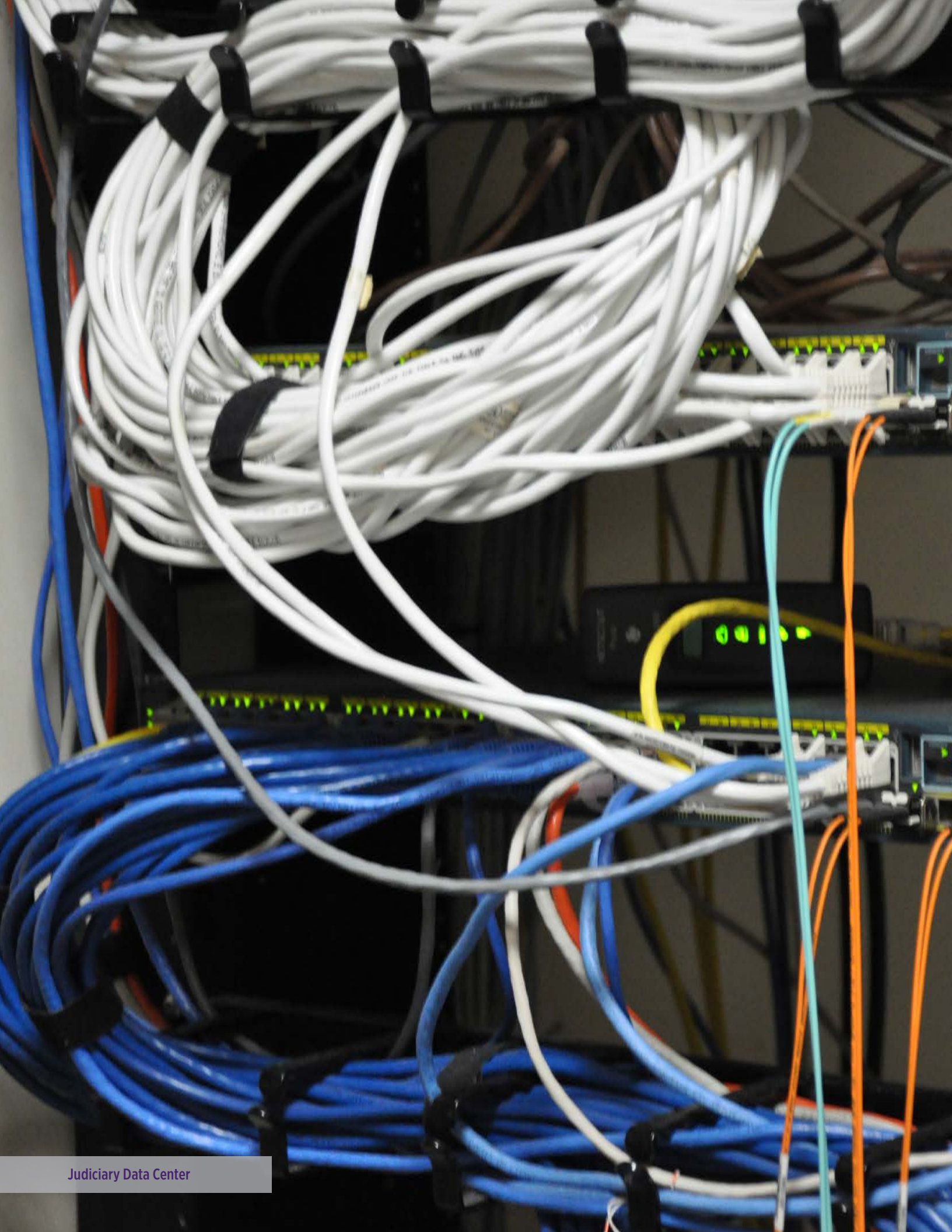
services de interpretación / usługi w zakresie ustnych tłumaczeń / serviços de intérpretes

Shqip, العربية, বাংলা, 中文, Hrvatski, فارسی, Français, עברית, Italiano, Polski, Português, Azərbaycanca, Українська, Türkçe, Tiếng Việt, American Sign Language, 한국어

Sèvis entèrprèt / Interpreting Services / 한국어

72,516
total court users who contacted the ombudsman offices statewide

We're at the Self-Represented Litigant Network Conference in Nashville. Janie Rodriguez, chief of litigant services and outreach for the New Jersey Judiciary, and Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem Ombudsman Vanessa Cardwell, who also is chair of the statewide Ombudsman Committee, presented a session today all about the New Jersey Judiciary's Ombudsman Program.

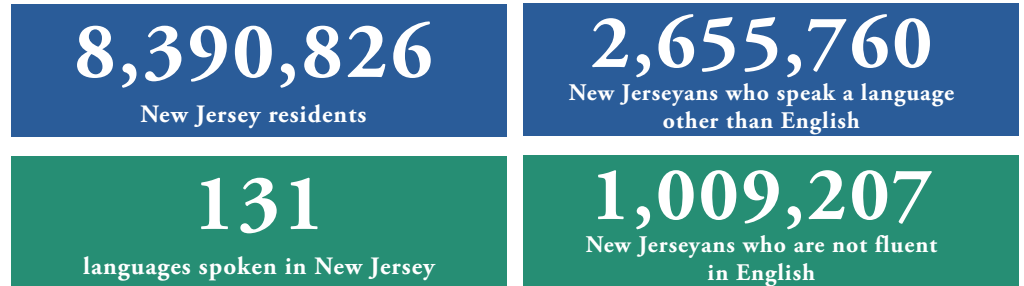


Statewide Completed Activities by County Using 15 Most Interpreted Languages

COUNTY	TOTAL
Atlantic	1,698
Bergen	4,618
Burlington	943
Camden	3,170
Cape May	543
Cumberland	1,797
Essex	6,279
Gloucester	457
Hudson	10,049
Hunterdon	275
Mercer	3,292
Middlesex	7,062
Monmouth	1,781
Morris	1,997
Ocean	1,785
Passaic	7,083
Salem	215
Somerset	1,799
Sussex	164
Union	4,585
Warren	225
Total	59,817

Language Services

New Jerseyans speak more than 130 different languages and upwards of 31 percent – more than 2.5 million – speak a language other than English at home. In Court Year 2020, New Jersey courts provided interpreting services nearly 60,000 times in 94 languages, including Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole and Arabic, but also in languages as diverse as Telugu, Achi, Amharic and Wolof.



The New Jersey Judiciary’s approach to language access has been a national model, one that is grounded in the basic tenet that anyone who is limited in the ability to speak and/or understand English or is deaf or hard of hearing is entitled to the same access to court services as those who are not.

Based on that core belief, the Judiciary ensures that only qualified interpreters may provide interpreting services and, except in very limited instances, the Judiciary bears all costs for interpreting.

The Judiciary’s Language Services section developed a comprehensive plan that promotes strong policies and standards, a court interpreter credentialing program, a program for translating self-help documents and training for judges and staff.

Languages Spoken at Home in New Jersey

Number of Speakers (2010 Census)	Language	Rank	Language	Number of Speakers (Pre-2020 Census)
1,277,000	Spanish	1	Spanish	1,371,956
84,160	Portuguese	2	Chinese (incl. Mandarin, Cantonese)	119,447
81,134	Tagalog	3	Portuguese	79,236
78,860	Chinese	4	Gujarati	78,583
78,856	Italian	5	Hindi	78,454
76,224	Korean	6	Tagalog (incl. Filipino)	76,139
75,414	Gujarati	7	Korean	75,617
66,346	Polish	8	Arabic	67,877
63,342	Hindi	9	Italian	61,875
59,729	Arabic	10	Polish	56,328

Court News and Events

While many business operations were halted during COVID-19, the New Jersey Judiciary recognized that it needed not only to continue services to the public but also to develop new ways to provide those services. Hearings were moved from the courtroom to online. Filings went from mostly paper to primarily electronic. At the same time, the Judiciary recognized that not all citizens have access to technology and took steps to bridge the “digital divide.” That included potential jurors who were provided with the technological assistance and equipment needed to take part in the jury process.



COVID-19 Timeline

March 2020

- **12** - Chief Justice Rabner Suspends New Jury Trials in Response to COVID-19
- **14** - Chief Justice Rabner Announces Two-Week Suspension of Municipal Court Sessions
- **15** - New Jersey Courts Postpone In-Person Proceedings
- **27** - Supreme Court Order Extends COVID-19 -Related Suspensions of Court Proceedings and Other Matters

April 2020

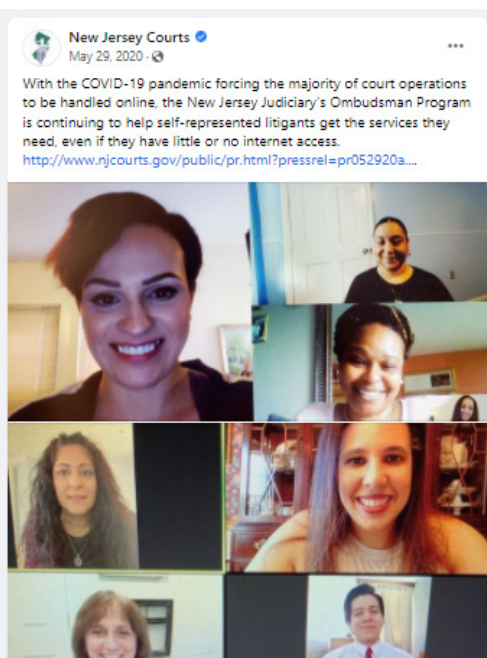
- **9** - New Jersey Judiciary Launches Expanded Electronic Filing System
- **24** - Supreme Court Order Resumes Some Court Operations, Extends Suspension of Others

May 2020

- **11** - Supreme Court Order Opens Municipal Courts for Business
- **14** - Judiciary Launches Virtual Grand Jury Pilot Program

June 2020

- **10** - Supreme Court Approves Post-Pandemic Plan
- **22** - New Jersey Courts Enter Second Phase of Post-Pandemic Plan





Naturalization Ceremonies

The Judiciary holds naturalization ceremonies several times a year, including on Law Day in May, to administer the Oath of Citizenship to new U.S. citizens. At ceremonies in the vicinages and at the Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex in Trenton, representatives of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security present the applicants before a judge administers the oath and the new citizens receive their certificates.



New Jersey Courts
Published by MA Spoto · September 12, 2019

We've launched a chat bot. Its name is JIA (Judiciary Information Assistant) and it's part of the Judiciary's ongoing efforts to ensure access to the courts and provide quality customer service. Located on the bottom right side of every page on our website (njcourts.gov), JIA has answers to more than 10,000 questions most commonly posed to the courts. Give it a try and let us know how it's working.

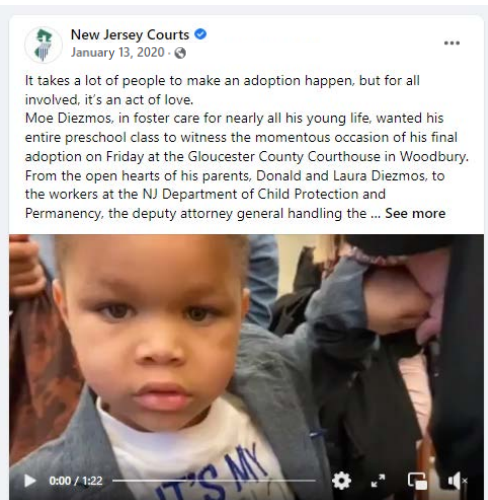
X Judiciary Information Agent

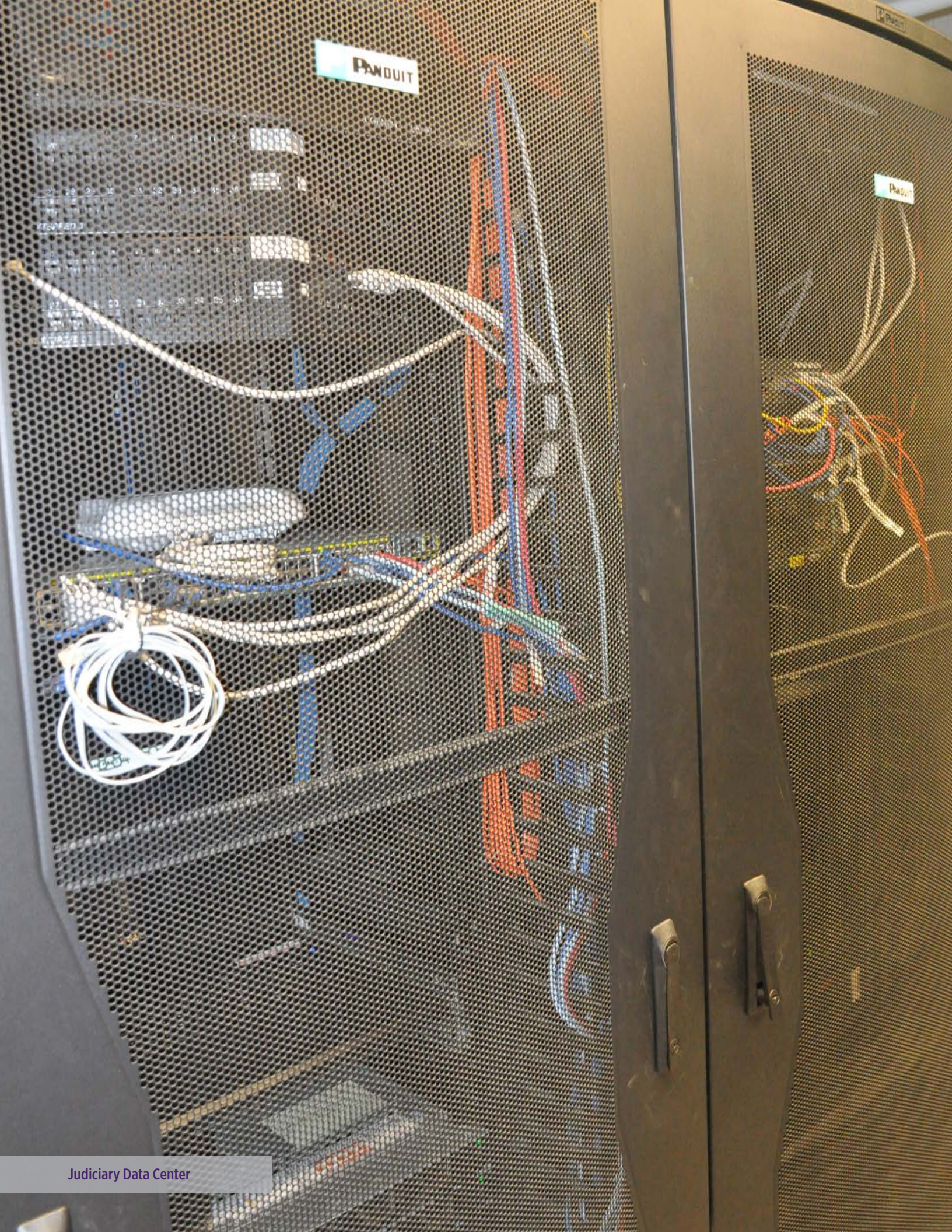
JIA Hello! I am Jia. I can help you answer questions in areas such as:

- Appellate Division
- Attorney Registration
- Criminal Division
- eCourts
- Family Court
- More Options

Adoption Day

National Adoption Day, held annually on the third Saturday in November, allows the Judiciary to increase awareness of the number of children in foster care and to honor adoptive families throughout New Jersey. Although judges finalize adoptions throughout the year, vicinages join in the national celebration by conducting special events in November. The Judiciary works in partnership with the state Division of Child Protection and Permanency and county surrogates to facilitate the adoptions.





Panduit

Panduit

Judicial Council

as of September 2019



Stuart Rabner
Chief Justice



Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.
Acting Administrative Director of the Courts



Julio L. Mendez
Assignment Judge
Atlantic/Cape May Vicinage



Bonnie J. Mizdol
Assignment Judge
Bergen Vicinage



Jeanne T. Covert
Assignment Judge
Burlington Vicinage



Deborah Silverman Katz
Assignment Judge
Camden Vicinage



Sallyanne Floria
Assignment Judge
Essex Vicinage



Peter F. Bariso Jr.
Assignment Judge
Hudson Vicinage



Mary C. Jacobson
Assignment Judge
Mercer Vicinage



Alberto Rivas
Assignment Judge
Middlesex Vicinage



Lisa P. Thornton
Assignment Judge
Monmouth Vicinage



Stuart A. Minkowitz
Assignment Judge
Morris/Sussex Vicinage



Ernest M. Caposela
Assignment Judge
Passaic Vicinage



Karen M. Cassidy
Assignment Judge
Union Vicinage



Yolanda Ciccone
Assignment Judge
Somerset/Hunterdon/Warren Vicinage



Marlene Lynch Ford
Assignment Judge
Ocean Vicinage



Benjamin C. Telsey
Assignment Judge
Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem Vicinage



Carmen Messano
Appellate Division Presiding Judge



Thomas F. Brogan
Civil Presiding Judge
Passaic Vicinage



Wendel E. Daniels
Criminal Presiding Judge
Ocean Vicinage



David B. Katz
Family Presiding Judge
Essex Vicinage



Paula T. Dow
General Equity Presiding Judge
Burlington Vicinage

JUDGES CHAMBERS

Judges and Justices

as of June 30, 2020

Superior Court

*Appellate Division

Allison E. Accurso*	Benjamin, S. Bucca Jr.	Frank J. Deangelis
Gregory L. Acquaviva	Thomas J. Buck	Bernadette N. Decastro
Stacey D. Adams	John J. Burke III	Philip James Degnan
Yolanda Adrianzen	Bradford M. Bury	John M. Deitch
Lisa M. Adubato	Henry P. Butehorn	Kathleen M. Delaney
Mark S. Ali	Chad H. Cagan	Anthony V. D'Elia
M. Christine Allen-Jackson	Thomas A. Callahan Jr.	James J. Deluca
Jodi Lee Alper	Ernest M. Caposela	Bernard E. Delury Jr.
Carmen H. Alvarez*	Patricia E. Carney	James M. Demarzo
Ralph E. Amirata	Andrea G. Carter	James Den Uyl
William Anklowitz	Karen M. Cassidy	Darren T. DiBiasi
Michael Antoniewicz	Regina Caulfield	Lara K. DiFabrizio
Patrick J. Arre	Linda Lordi Cavanaugh	Francisco Dominguez
Lorraine M. Augostini	Judith S. Charny	James W. Donohue
Mark A. Baber	Mark K. Chase	John M. Doran
Keith A. Bachmann	Timothy W. Chell	Charles W. Dortch Jr.
Robert A. Ballard Jr.	Jean S. Chetney	Paula T. Dow
Peter F. Bariso Jr.	Joseph M. Chiarello	John C. Eastlack Jr.
Peter J. Barnes III	Randal C. Chiocca	Madelin F. Einbinder
Patrick J. Bartels	Lisa F. Chrystal	Richard W. English
Arthur J. Batista	Mark P. Ciarrocca	Catherine I. Enright*
David F. Bauman	Vicki A. Citrino	Paul X. Escandon
Jeffrey B. Beacham	Marilyn C. Clark	Kimberly Espinales-Maloney
Robert P. Becker Jr.	Michael T. Collins	Linda W. Eynon
Aimee R. Belgard	Terrence R. Cook	Vincent N. Falcetano Jr.
Scott J. Bennion	J. Randall Corman	Nan S. Famular
Maritza Berdote Byrne	Craig L. Corson	Douglas M. Fasciale*
Arthur Bergman	Mary K. Costello	James J. Ferrelli
Stanley L. Bergman Jr.	Gerald J. Council	Eric G. Fikry
Daniel A. Bernardin	Frank Covelio	Rudolph A. Filko
Michael N. Beukas	Jeanne T. Covert	Lisa A. Firko*
Robert W. Bingham II	Michael V. Cresitello Jr.	Clarkson S. Fisher Jr.*
Avis Bishop-Thompson	Martin G. Cronin	Catherine M. Fitzpatrick
Michael J. Blee	Rodney Cunningham	Sallyanne Floria
Gwendolyn Blue	Therese A. Cunningham	Colleen M. Flynn
Peter A. Bogaard	Heidi Willis Currier*	Marlene Lynch Ford
Thomas T. Booth Jr.	H. Matthew Curry	Wayne J. Forrest
Angela Borkowski	Angela White Dalton	Margaret M. Foti
Terry Paul Bottinelli	William A. Daniel	Magali M. Francois
Patrick J. Bradshaw	Wendel E. Daniels	Noah Franzblau
Gerard H. Breland	Pamela D'Arcy	Lisa Perez Friscia
Robert E. Brenner	Cristen P. D'Arrigo	Jose L. Fuentes*
Thomas F. Brogan	Lawrence P. De Bello	Harold W. Fullilove Jr.
Daniel H. Brown	Miguel A. De La Carrera	Mitzy Galis-Menendez
Marc R. Brown	Estela M. De La Cruz	Jane Gallina Mecca
Thomas M. Brown	Patrick DeAlmeida*	Donna Gallucio

George H. Gangloff Jr.	Robert Kirsch	Theresa E. Mullen
Robert H. Gardner	Ellen L. Koblitz*	Valter H. Must
Christopher J. Garrenger	Teresa A. Kondrup-Coyle	Arnold L. Natali Jr.*
Michael C. Gaus	Kurt Kramer	Mark J. Nelson
Peter G. Geiger	Mary Beth Kramer	Steven F. Nemeth
Richard J. Geiger*	Linda L. Lawhun	Justine A. Niccollai
J. Christopher Gibson	Verna G. Leath	Dennis V. Nieves
Robert J. Gilson*	Vincent Leblon	Richard J. Nocella
Rochelle Gizinski	Marc C. Lemieux	Carol V. Novey Catuogno
John I. Gizzo	Alan G. Lesnewich	John D. O'Dwyer
Greta Gooden Brown*	Joseph A. Levin	Jill G. O'Malley
Margaret Goodzeit	Daniel R. Lindemann	Michael F. O'Neill
Deborah L. Gramiccioni	Sandra Lopez	Christine S. Orlando
Glenn A. Grant*	Robert T. Lougy	Mitchel E. Ostrer*
Nora J. Grimbergen	Lourdes Lucas	Michael R. Ostrowski Jr.
Deborah M. Gross-Quatrone	Timothy P. Lydon	Joseph W. Oxley
James J. Guida	Martha D. Lynes	Gregg A. Padovano
Katie A. Gummer	Keith E. Lynott	James R. Paganelli
Michael J. Haas*	Philip J. Maenza	James W. Palmer Jr.
Philip E. Haines	Colleen A. Maier	Joseph Paone
Deborah S. Hanlon-Schron	Martha T. Mainor	Russell J. Passamano
Robert M. Hanna	Robert G. Malestein	Darlene J. Pereksta
Jamie D. Happas	Maureen B. Mantineo	Stephen L. Petrillo
Rachelle Lea Harz	Janetta D. Marbrey	Anthony F. Picheca Jr.
James Hely	Joseph L. Marczyk	James H. Pickering
Richard L. Hertzberg	Julie M. Marino	Diane Pincus
Francis Hodgson Jr.	Lawrence M. Maron	Sheree V. Pitchford
Edward W. Hoffman	Andrea I. Marshall	Benjamin Podolnick
Richard S. Hoffman*	Anthony M. Massi	Steven J. Polansky
Michael E. Hubner	John J. Matheussen	Robert L. Polifroni
John G. Hudak	Susan F. Maven	Joseph A. Portelli
J. Adam Hughes	Hany A. Mawla*	John C. Porto
Douglas H. Hurd	Jessica R. Mayer*	Anthony M. Pugliese
James F. Hyland	Edward J. McBride Jr.	Lisa A. Puglisi
David H. Ironson	Owen C. McCarthy	Kathy C. Qasim
Joseph V. Isabella	James P. McClain	Joseph P. Quinn
Thomas K. Isenhour	Thomas D. McCloskey	Christopher D. Rafano
Jeffrey R. Jablonski	John P. McDonald	David M. Ragonese
Adam E. Jacobs	James J. McGann	Samuel J. Ragonese Jr.
Mary C. Jacobson	William J. McGovern III	Kimarie Rahill
Lisa James-Beavers	Frances A. McGrogan	Rosemary E. Ramsay
Mark T. Janeczko	Brian McLaughlin	John R. Rauh
Latoyia K. Jenkins	Jaclyn V. Medina	Michael L. Ravin
Edward A. Jerejian	Robert J. Mega	Joseph L. Rea
Pedro J. Jimenez Jr.	Peter J. Melchionne	Nina C. Remson
Sarah Beth Johnson	Julio L. Mendez	Nancy L. Ridgway
Harold U. Johnson Jr.	Marybel Mercado-Ramirez	Alberto Rivas
Bruce A. Jones	Carmen Messano*	Nesle A. Rodriguez
Linda Grasso Jones	Vincent J. Militello	Yolanda C. Rodriguez
Robert J. Jones Jr.	Thomas C. Miller	Candido Rodriguez Jr.
John A. Jorgensen II	W. Todd Miller	Marybeth Rogers
Michael E. Joyce	Stuart A. Minkowitz	Michael J. Rogers
James L. Jukes	Lisa Miralles Walsh	Christopher S. Romanyshyn
Bahir Kamil	Stephanie Ann Mitterhoff*	Lisa Rose*
Bruce J. Kaplan	Bonnie J. Mizdol	Marysol Rosero
Imre Karaszegi Jr.	Sohail Mohammed	Garry S. Rothstadt*
Michael J. Kassel	Joseph G. Monaghan	Scott T. Rumana
David B. Katz	Thomas M. Moore	Guy P. Ryan
Christopher R. Kazlau	Benjamin D. Morgan	Jack M. Sabatino*
Honora O'Brien Kilgallen	Scott J. Moynihan*	Sharifa R. Salaam

Mark H. Sandson
 James X. Sattely
 James P. Savio
 Louis S. Sceusi
 Tara Schillari Rich
 Frederick J. Schuck
 Sherri L. Schweitzer
 Vito A. Sciancalepore
 Annette Scoca
 Kevin M. Shanahan
 Kathleen A. Sheedy
 M. Susan Sheppard
 Mark B. Shoemaker
 Thomas J. Shusted Jr.
 Marcia L. Silva
 Michael J. Silvanio
 Deborah Silverman Katz
 Mary C. Siracusa
 Nancy Sivilli
 Walter F. Skrod
 Christine Smith
 Kevin T. Smith
 Morris G. Smith
 L. Grace Spencer
 Barbara J. Stanton
 Bridget A. Stecher
 Donald J. Stein
 Mitchell I. Steinhart
 Barbara C. Stolte
 Haekyoung Suh
 Richard T. Sules
 Thomas W. Sumners Jr.*
 Ronald Susswein*
 Karen L. Suter*
 James R. Swift
 Mark P. Tarantino
 Mayra V. Tarantino
 Donna M. Taylor
 Stephen J. Taylor
 Siobhan A. Teare
 Benjamin C. Telsey
 Rodney Thompson
 Lisa P. Thornton
 Mary F. Thurber
 Peter J. Tober
 Ellen Torregrossa-O'Connor
 Michael A. Toto
 Mark A. Troncone
 Joseph A. Turula
 Christine M. Vanek
 Radames Velazquez Jr.
 Thomas R. Vena
 Sheila Ann Venable
 Deborah J. Venezia
 Francis J. Vernioia*
 Lisa M. Vignuolo
 Robert M. Vinci
 Ana C. Viscomi
 Kay Walcott-Henderson
 Jeffrey J. Waldman

Thomas J. Walls Jr.
 Thomas J. Walsh
 Peter E. Warshaw
 David J. Weaver
 Daniel L. Weiss
 Craig L. Wellerson
 Mary Gibbons Whipple*
 Ronald D. Wigler
 Gary N. Wilcox
 Patricia M. Wild
 James P. Wilson
 Marcella Matos Wilson
 Robert C. Wilson
 Robert G. Wilson
 Richard C. Wischusen
 Gary D. Wodlinger
 Gary K. Wolinetz
 Carolyn E. Wright
 Michael P. Wright
 Daniel J. Yablonsky
 Joseph L. Yannotti*
 John A. Young Jr.
 Mara Zazzali-Hogan
 William F. Ziegler
 Janet Zoltanski Smith
 John Zunic

Supreme Court

Stuart Rabner
 Barry T. Albin
 Faustino J. Fernandez-Vina
 Jaynee LaVecchia
 Anne M. Patterson
 Lee A. Solomon
 Walter F. Timpone

Tax Court

Joseph M. Andresini
 Joan Bedrin Murray
 Vito L. Bianco
 Mary Siobhan Brennan
 Mark Cimino
 Kathi F. Fiamingo
 Michael J. Gilmore
 Joshua D. Novin
 Christine M. Nugent
 Jonathan A. Orsen
 Mala Sundar

Trial Court Filings, Resolutions and Backlog by Division

	Filings			Resolutions			Inventory (Active Cases Pending Within Time Goals)			Backlog (Active Cases Pending Over Time Goals)		
	July 2018 to June 2019	July 2019 to June 2020	percent change	July 2018 to June 2019	July 2019 to June 2020	percent change	June 2019	June 2020	percent change	June 2019	June 2020	percent change
	Criminal Division Indictable Cases	42,569	30,062	-29%	43,284	31,968	-26%	7,539	1,675	-78%	5,795	10,594
Municipal Appeals	544	394	-28%	585	403	-31%	110	25	-77%	66	145	120%
Post-Conviction Relief	615	518	-16%	690	543	-21%	454	379	-17%	92	145	58%
General Equity Total	4,998	4,175	-16%	5,236	4,301	-18%	1,903	1,695	-11%	264	260	-2%
Contested Foreclosure	2,124	1,704	-20%	2,316	1,763	-24%	804	662	-18%	79	65	-18%
Equity (excluding foreclosure)	2,874	2,471	-14%	2,920	2,538	-13%	1,099	1,033	-6%	185	195	5%
Civil Division Civil - Total	78,133	72,689	-7%	77,002	71,848	-7%	65,533	68,195	4%	23,672	22,604	-5%
Multi-County Litigation	3,819	2,294	-40%	1,903	6,992	267%	4,218	5,086	21%	14,141	9,131	-35%
Non Multi-County Litigation	74,314	70,395	-5%	75,099	64,856	-14%	61,315	63,109	3%	9,531	13,473	41%
Special Civil - Total	394,024	342,400	-13%	396,624	334,650	-16%	36,963	24,106	-35%	206	20,888	10,040%
Special Civil - Auto	3,079	2,472	-20%	3,187	2,309	-28%	345	413	20%	11	110	900%
Special Civil - Contract	207,640	186,581	-10%	209,214	196,712	-6%	24,946	12,686	-49%	136	2,279	1,576%
Special Civil - Other	6,781	5,583	-18%	6,979	5,185	-26%	925	1,030	11%	18	316	1,656%
Special Civil - Small Claims	24,604	18,203	-26%	24,934	17,121	-31%	1,370	834	-39%	11	1646	14,864%
Special Civil - Tenancy	151,920	129,561	-15%	152,310	113,323	-26%	9,377	9,143	-2%	30	16,537	55,023%
Probate	6,222	6,038	-3%	6,246	5,970	-4%	1,748	1,777	2%	77	115	49%
Family Division Dissolution	53,173	44,218	-17%	54,361	41,986	-23%	14,871	15,794	6%	815	2,085	156%
Delinquency	22,243	18,565	-17%	22,260	17,617	-21%	1,778	1,321	-26%	114	1,477	1,196%
Non-Dissolution	123,825	91,140	-26%	123,905	93,477	-25%	7,497	2,483	-67%	141	2,714	1,825%
Domestic Violence	45,909	42,001	-9%	45,939	40,285	-12%	1,510	1,905	26%	27	1,336	4,848%
Abuse / Neglect	3,890	2,881	-26%	4,349	3,753	-14%	4,133	3,194	-23%	19	84	342%
Adoption	1,878	1,642	-13%	2,035	1,687	-18%	359	323	-10%			
Child Placement Review	3,040	2,169	-29%	4,100	3,142	-23%	5,583	4,612	-17%	1	22	2,100%
Juvenile / Family Crisis	214	167	-22%	211	171	-19%	14	6	-57%	0	4	
Kinship	524	481	-8%	520	481	-8%	74	63	-15%	0	9	
Termination of Parental Rights	899	703	-22%	998	683	-32%	354	219	-38%	38	191	403%
Criminal / Quasi-Criminal	7,610	6,834	-10%	7,502	6,135	-18%	745	762	2%	21	509	2,324%
Total	790,310	667,077	-16%	795,847	659,091	-17%	151,168	128,534	-15%	31,348	63,182	102%
Multi-County Litigation	3,819	2,294	-40%	1,903	6,992	267%	4,218	5,086	21%	14,141	9,131	-35%
Non Multi-County Litigation	786,491	664,783	-15%	793,944	652,099	-18%	146,950	123,448	-16%	17,207	54,051	214%

Trial Court Filings, Resolutions and Backlog by County

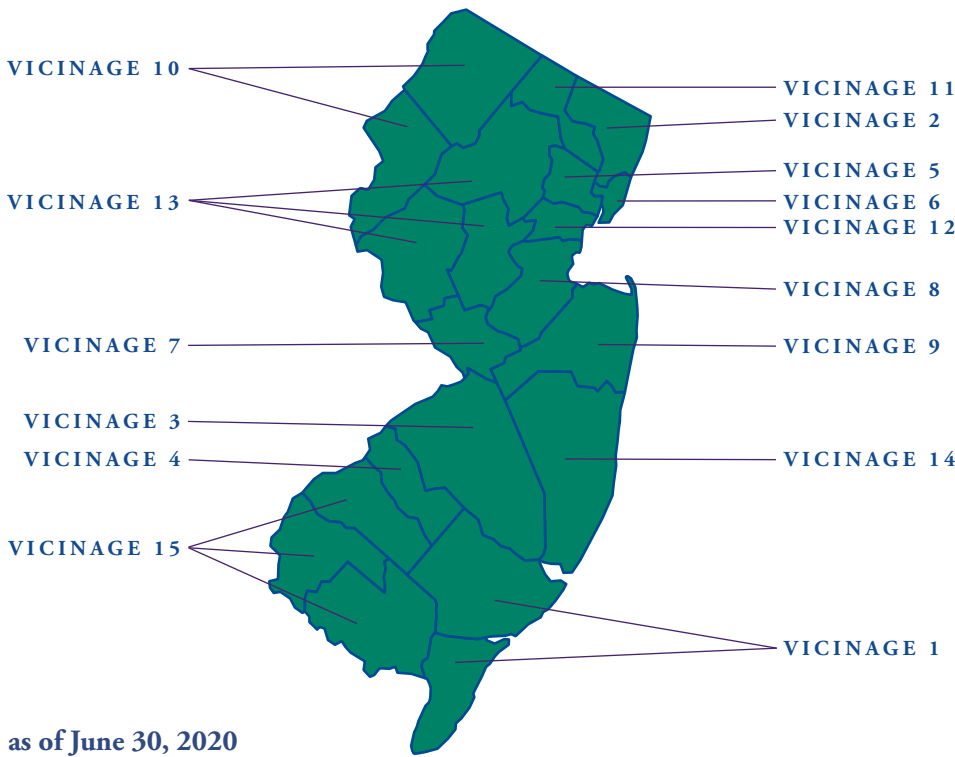
	Filings			Resolutions			Inventory (Active Cases Pending Within Time Goals)			Backlog (Active Cases Pending Over Time Goals)		
	July 2018 to June 2019	July 2019 to June 2020	percent change	July 2018 to June 2019	July 2019 to June 2020	percent change	June 2019	June 2020	percent change	June 2019	June 2020	percent change
	Atlantic County Total	32,308	28,556	-12%	32,164	28,054	-13%	7,130	6,271	-12%	1,151	3,375
Multi-County Litigation	684	991	45%	812	68	-92%	760	1429	88%	50	821	1,542%
Non Multi-County Litigation	31,624	27,565	-13%	31,352	27,986	-11%	6,370	4,842	-24%	1,101	2,554	132%
Bergen County Total	59,225	49,337	-17%	59,840	54,750	-9%	13,240	11,721	-11%	12,394	8,793	-29%
Multi-County Litigation	986	287	-71%	502	6,634	1,222%	1,306	911	-30%	11,237	5,313	-53%
Non-Multicounty Litigation	58,239	49,050	-16%	59,338	48,116	-19%	11,934	10,810	-9%	1,157	3,480	-201%
Burlington County	40,448	33,993	-16%	40,661	34,241	-16%	6,463	5,176	-20%	289	1,330	360%
Camden County	64,213	53,495	-17%	64,337	52,100	-19%	10,882	9,064	-17%	859	4,063	373%
Cape May County	8,872	7,220	-19%	9,112	7,470	-18%	1,642	1,119	-32%	226	452	100%
Cumberland County	20,819	17,527	-16%	21,060	17,566	-17%	2,974	2,207	-26%	404	1,147	184%
Essex County	113,339	96,936	-14%	114,621	90,864	-21%	21,307	18,844	-12%	3,604	12,142	237%
Gloucester County	25,563	21,720	-15%	26,049	21,741	-17%	3,936	3,328	-15%	453	1,083	139%
Hudson County	60,276	51,045	-15%	60,507	49,936	-17%	11,055	9,396	-15%	934	3,783	305%
Hunterdon County	5,811	4,892	-16%	5,797	4,954	-15%	1,079	868	-20%	56	194	246%
Mercer County	36,991	29,513	-20%	37,557	28,669	-24%	6,047	4,888	-19%	793	2,800	253%
Middlesex County Total	64,007	54,331	-15%	63,361	51,736	-18%	15,880	15,244	-4%	4,542	7,772	71%
Multi-County Litigation	2,149	1,016	-53%	589	290	-51%	2,152	2,746	28%	2,854	2,997	5%
Non Multi-County Litigation	61,858	53,315	-14%	62,772	51,446	-18%	13,728	12,498	-9%	1,688	4,775	183%
Monmouth County	43,018	35,030	-19%	43,628	35,535	-19%	9,279	7,313	-21%	1,087	2,607	140%
Morris County	25,637	22,451	-12%	25,646	22,187	-13%	5,312	4,681	-12%	560	1,293	131%
Ocean County	41,497	35,312	-15%	42,007	35,045	-17%	7,708	6,458	-16%	1,120	2,696	141%
Passaic County	51,714	44,240	-14%	52,000	42,934	-17%	9,512	7,632	-20%	956	4,204	340%
Salem County	8,152	6,917	-15%	8,221	6,966	-15%	1,084	756	-30%	115	388	237%
Somerset County	18,584	15,881	-15%	18,587	15,698	-16%	3,584	2,943	-18%	254	1,061	318%
Sussex County	10,197	8,277	-19%	10,304	8,461	-18%	1,741	1,249	-28%	148	482	226%
Union County	50,727	43,181	-15%	51,448	42,752	-17%	9,980	8,463	-15%	1,333	3,214	141%
Warren County	8,912	7,223	-19%	8,940	7,432	-17%	1,333	913	-32%	70	303	333%
Total	790,310	667,077	-16%	795,847	659,091	-17%	151,168	128,534	-15%	31,348	63,182	102%
Multi-County Litigation	3,819	2,294	-40%	1,903	6,992	-267%	4,218	5,086	21%	14,141	9,131	-35%
Non Multi-County Litigation	786,491	664,783	-15%	793,944	652,099	-18%	146,950	123,448	-16%	17,207	54,051	214%

Vicinage Map

There is a Superior Court in each of New Jersey's 21 counties. The Superior Courts are grouped into 15 court districts called vicinages.

Vicinage comes from the Latin word *vicinus*, which means vicinity, neighborhood or district.

Below is a list of New Jersey's Superior Court vicinages including their Assignment Judge and Trial Court Administrator.



as of June 30, 2020

Atlantic/Cape May

Vicinage 1

Julio L. Mendez

Assignment Judge

Howard H. Berchtold Jr.

Trial Court Administrator

Bergen

Vicinage 2

Bonnie J. Mizdol

Assignment Judge

Laura A. Simoldoni

Trial Court Administrator

Burlington

Vicinage 3

Jeanne T. Covert

Assignment Judge

Alba R. Rivera

Trial Court Administrator

Camden

Vicinage 4

Deborah Silverman Katz

Assignment Judge

Colleen P. Lore

Trial Court Administrator

Essex

Vicinage 5

Sallyanne Floria

Assignment Judge

Amy K. DePaul

Trial Court Administrator

Hudson

Vicinage 6

Peter F. Bariso Jr.

Assignment Judge

Marie L. Keevan

Trial Court Administrator

Mercer

Vicinage 7

Mary C. Jacobson

Assignment Judge

Sue Regan

Trial Court Administrator

Middlesex

Vicinage 8

Michael A. Toto

Assignment Judge

Gregory Lambard

Trial Court Administrator

Monmouth

Vicinage 9

Lisa P. Thornton

Assignment Judge

Gurpreet M. Singh

Trial Court Administrator

Morris/Sussex

Vicinage 10

Stuart A. Minkowitz

Assignment Judge

Susan Chait

Trial Court Administrator

Passaic

Vicinage 11

Ernest M. Caposela

Assignment Judge

Robert D. Tracy

Trial Court Administrator

Union

Vicinage 12

Karen M. Cassidy

Assignment Judge

Devang M. Merchant

Trial Court Administrator

Somerset/Hunterdon/Warren

Vicinage 13

Thomas C. Miller

Assignment Judge

Adriana M. Calderon

Trial Court Administrator

Ocean

Vicinage 14

Marlene Lynch Ford

Assignment Judge

Jill Vito

Trial Court Administrator

Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem

Vicinage 15

Benjamin C. Telsey

Assignment Judge

Jason Corter

Trial Court Administrator

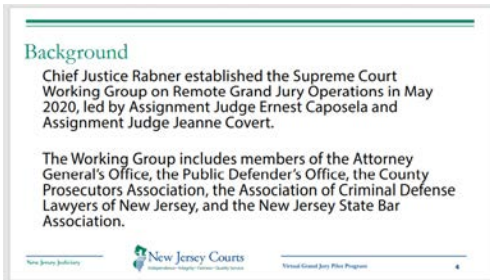
A Virtual Supreme Court



The New Jersey Judiciary worked closely with the New Jersey Department of Health in responding to the Covid-19 public health crisis. The impact of the virus required the Judiciary to adjust many of its general policies for the duration of the crisis.

Court operations, including Supreme Court arguments, were held in a virtual format to the greatest extent practicable, subject to constitutional considerations and resource limitations.

Between March 16, 2020 and June 30, 2020, the Court held 10 oral argument sessions. During those argument sessions, the Court heard argument on 26 matters.



On June 1, 2020, Chief Justice Stuart Rabner administered the oath of admission to the New Jersey bar for the first time virtually to 37 new attorneys who he said will bring their skills and talents to the legal profession during challenging times.



STUART RABNER
CHIEF JUSTICE

GLENN A. GRANT, J.A.D.
ACTING ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COURTS