

Nebraska Judicial Branch

# Weighted Caseload Report

## County Courts

**Reporting Period**  
**Calendar Year 2020**

January 1, 2020 to  
December 31, 2020



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# Weighted Caseload Report for Nebraska County Courts

Nebraska has a county court in each of its 93 counties, organized into 12 Judicial Districts. Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 24-503, the Legislature determines the number of county court judges who serve in each judicial district, and the geographic boundaries of each judicial district. An objective assessment of judicial workload allows informed decisions about district boundaries and the number of judges needed to timely resolve the cases in each judicial district.

To assist in evaluating judicial workloads, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 24-1007(1) requires the Nebraska Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation (AOC) to compile judicial workload statistics based on caseload numbers weighted by category of case. These weighted caseload statistics are used by the Judicial Branch, the Judicial Resources Commission, and the Legislature to evaluate judicial need, and guide decisions and recommendations on how best to allocate judicial resources across the state.

To ensure the validity, uniformity and accuracy of the AOC's judicial workload statistics, a statewide judicial time study was conducted in 2019-2020 under the direction and leadership of the National Center for State Courts. For a full description of the judicial time study and the recommended weighting methodology and standards, see *Nebraska Judicial Workload Assessment Final Report* (October 2020) on the Nebraska Supreme Court Website. Because this Weighted Caseload Report utilizes the methodology and standards from the 2020 workload assessment, direct comparison to archived reports is not recommended.

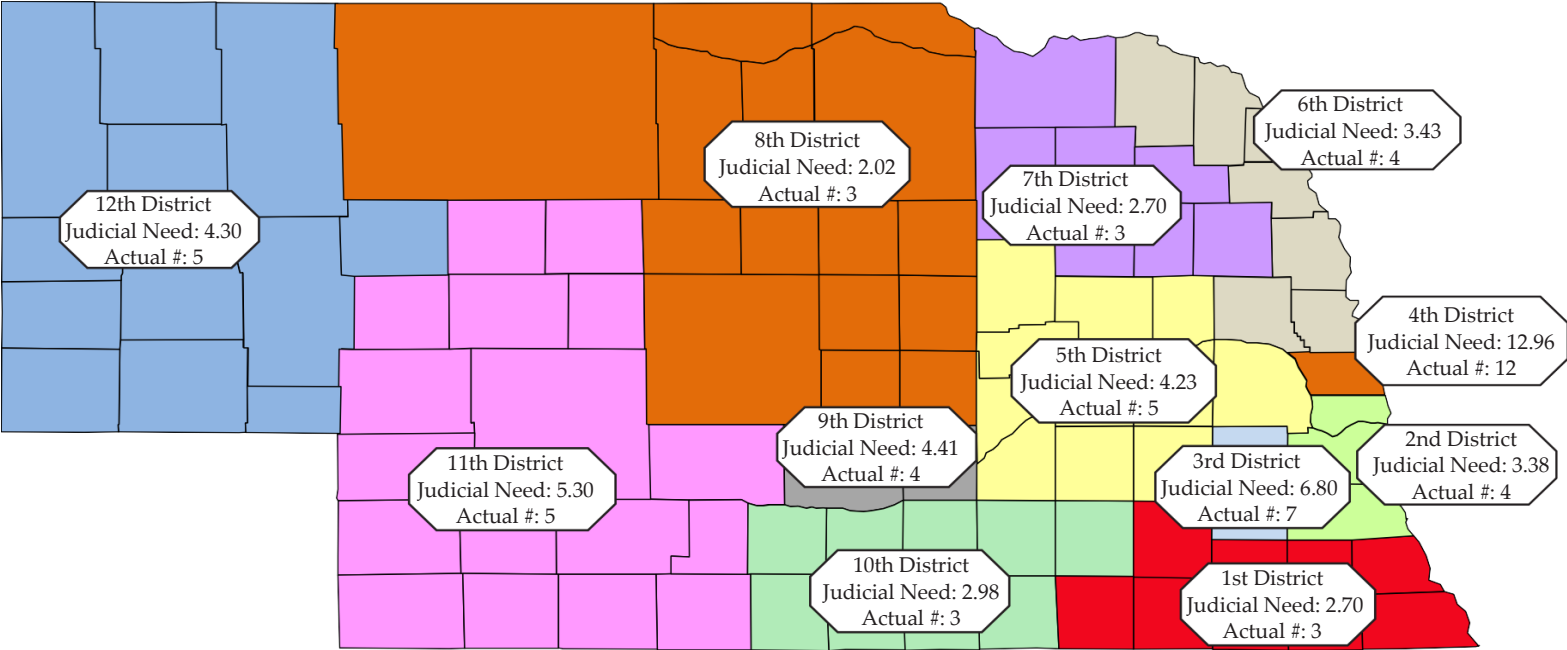
No quantitative judicial workload assessment method, including the weighted caseload method, can determine the exact number of judges needed within each judicial district. But weighted caseload statistics can approximate the number of judges needed to handle the current caseload in each judicial district. When weighted caseload statistics are examined in conjunction with other important influencing factors it provides an objective and standardized way to assess judicial need and to fairly allocate judicial resources among judicial districts.



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# Nebraska County Court Judicial Needs Calendar Year 2020 (January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020)



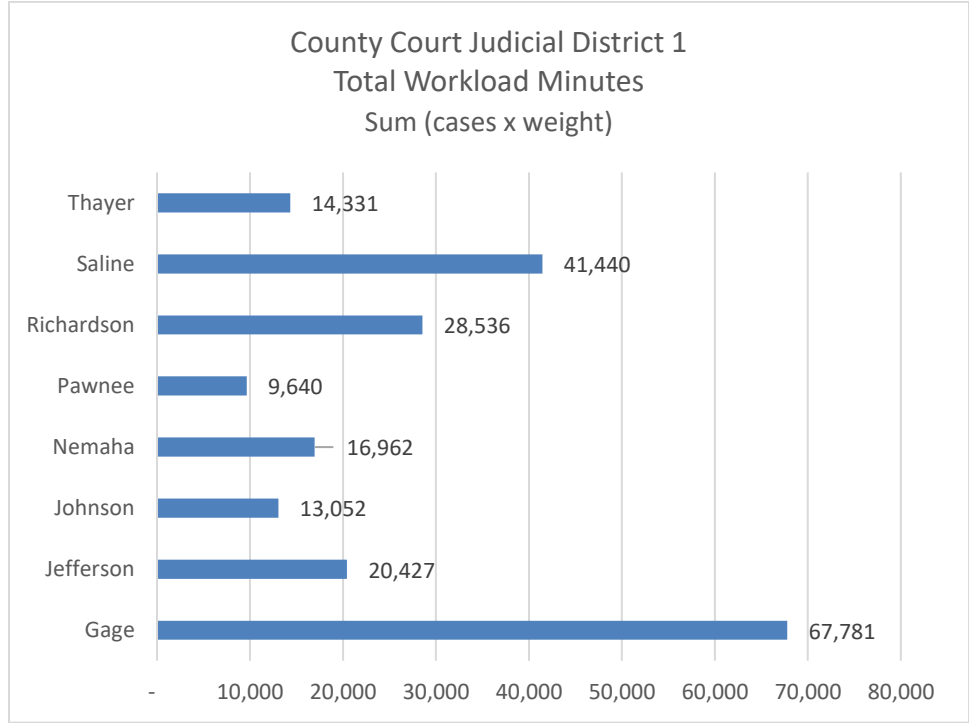
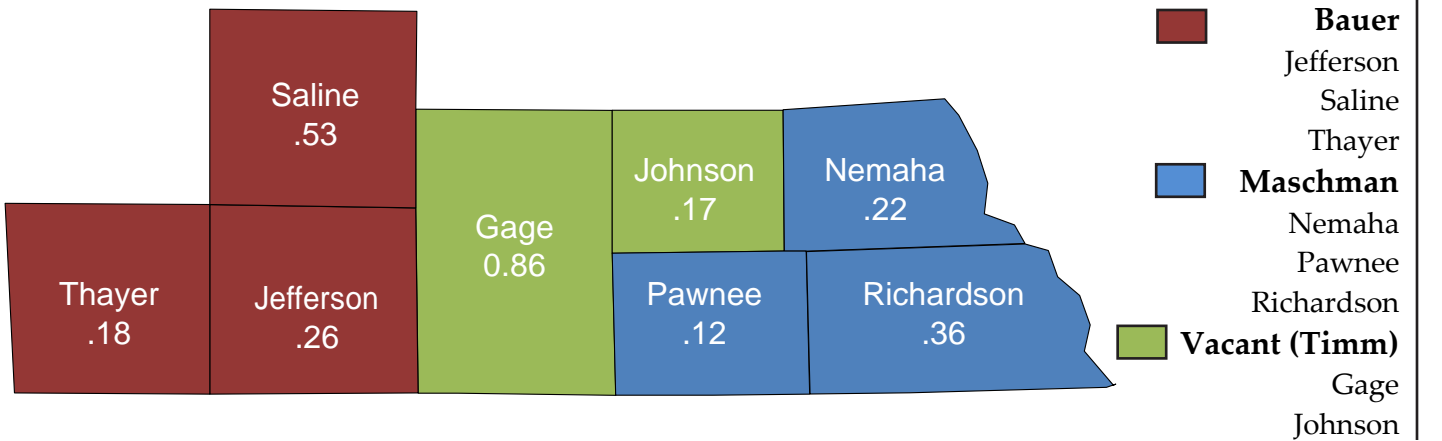
Differences between the total County Court Need for Judges and the sum of individual counties is due to rounding to the nearest one-hundredth.

# Weighted Caseload Report

## 1st Judicial District - County Court

County court need for judges: 2.70  
 Current number of judges: 3  
 Workload per judge: 0.90

Predicted judicial resources need by county

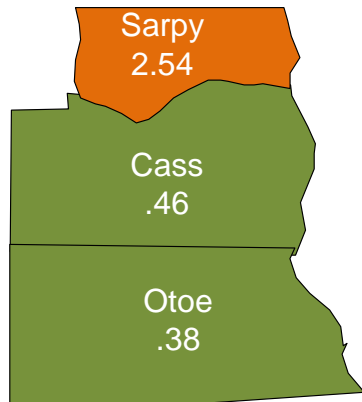


# Weighted Caseload Report

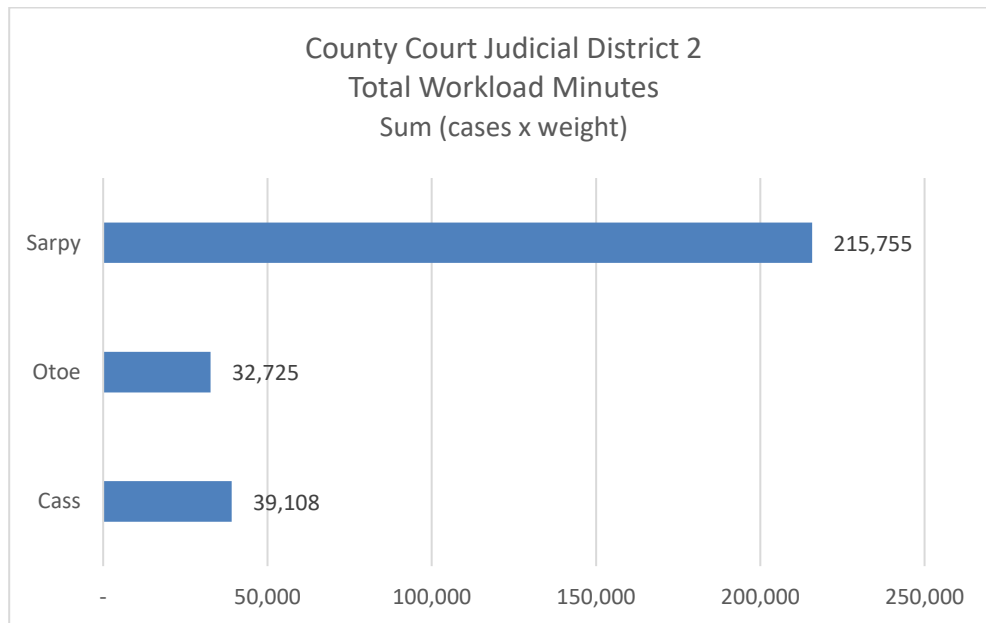
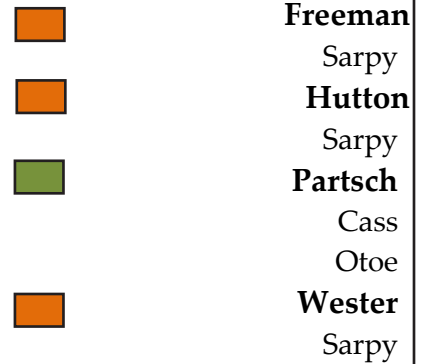
## 2nd Judicial District - County Court

County court need for judges: 3.38  
 Current number of judges: 4  
 Workload per judge: 0.85

Predicted judicial resources need by county



Primary Counties Served by  
 2nd District Judges



\*Sarpy County Juvenile Judge Robert O’Neal hears all Otoe County Juvenile Cases. Sarpy County Juvenile Judge Lawrence D. Gendler hears all Cass County Juvenile Cases. (Juvenile cases have been removed from Otoe and Cass County weighted cases and added to the Separate Juvenile Sarpy County weighted cases.)

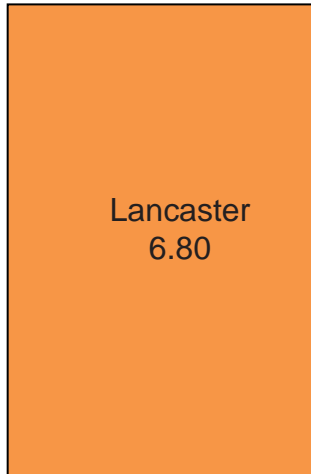
# Weighted Caseload Report

## 3rd Judicial District - County Court

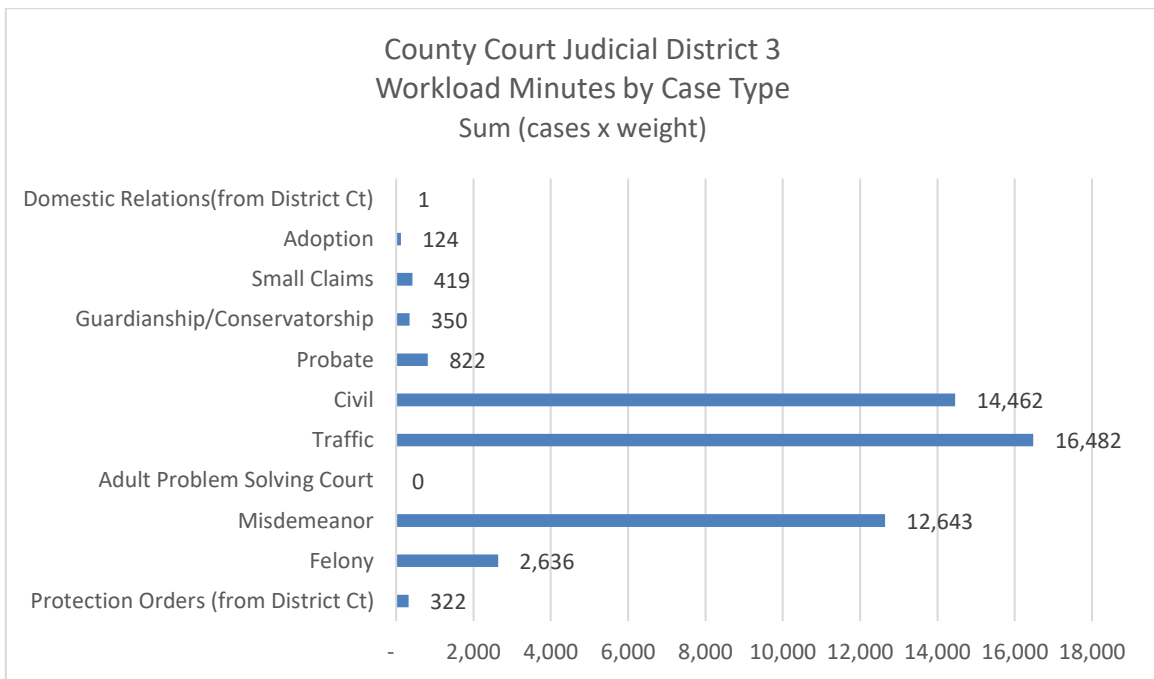
County court need for judges: 6.80  
 Current number of judges: 7  
 Workload per judge: 0.97

Predicted judicial resources need by county

Primary Counties Served by  
 3<sup>rd</sup> District Judges



**Acton**  
**Dalton**  
**Parsley**  
**Phillips**  
**Reuter**  
**Yardley**  
**Zimmerman**



# Weighted Caseload Report

## 4th Judicial District - County Court

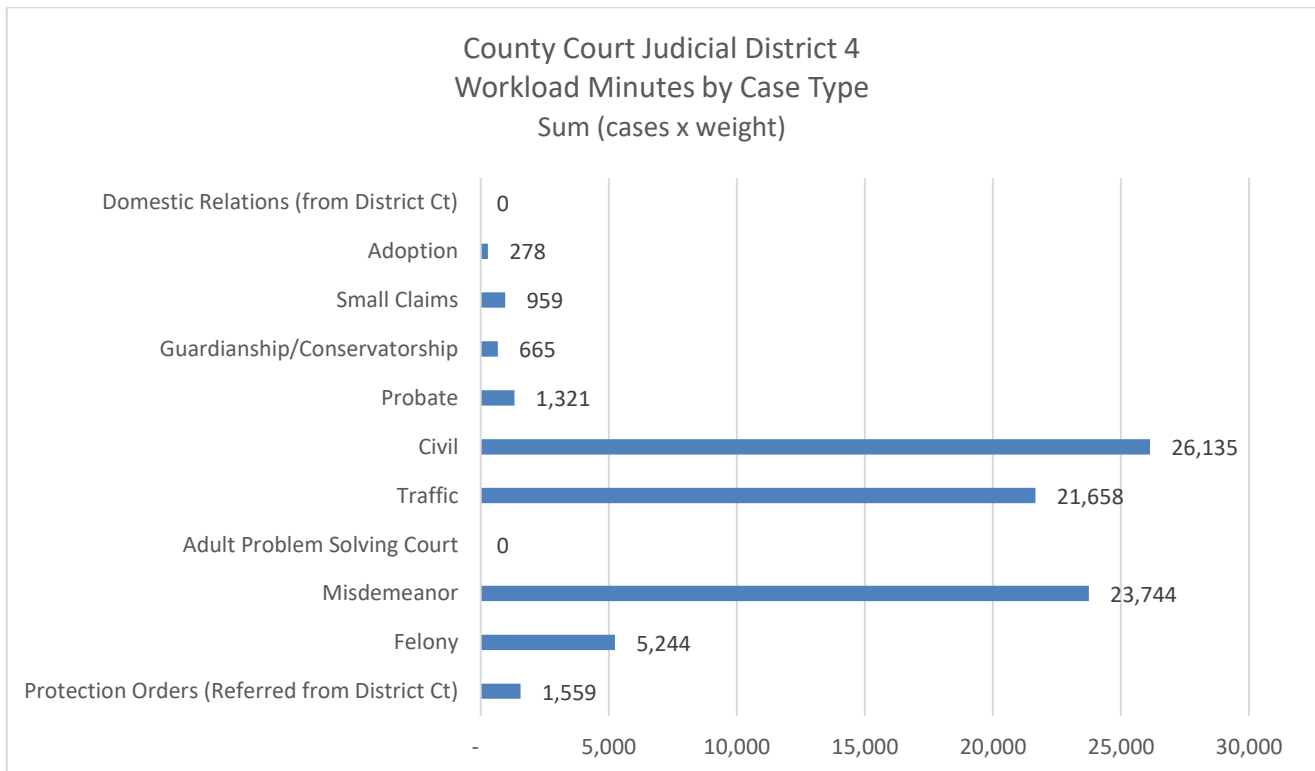
County court need for judges: 12.96  
 Current number of judges: 12  
 Workload per judge: 1.08

Predicted judicial resources need by county



Primary Counties Served by  
4<sup>th</sup> District Judges

- Forsberg
- Hansen
- Harmon
- Hendrix
- Huber
- Keim
- Lohaus
- Lowe
- Marcuzzo
- McDermott
- Shearer
- Vaughn



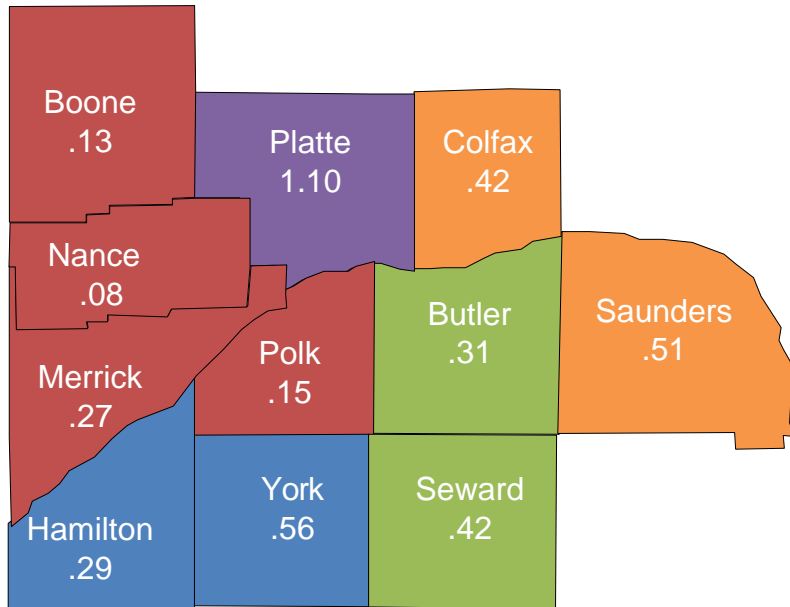


# Weighted Caseload Report

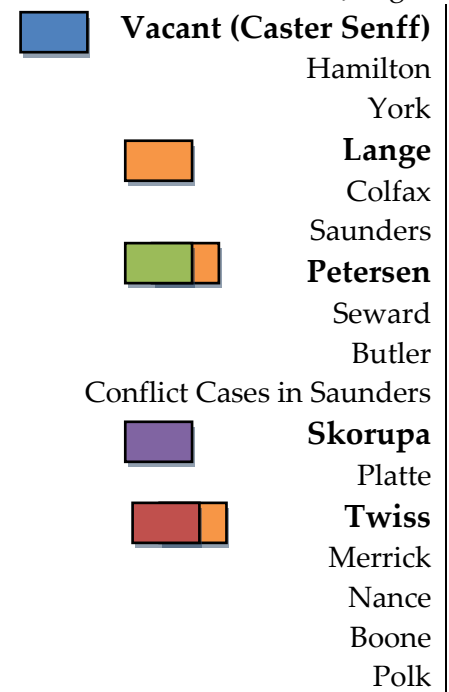
## 5th Judicial District - County Court

County court need for judges: 4.23  
 Current number of judges: 5  
 Workload per judge: 0.85

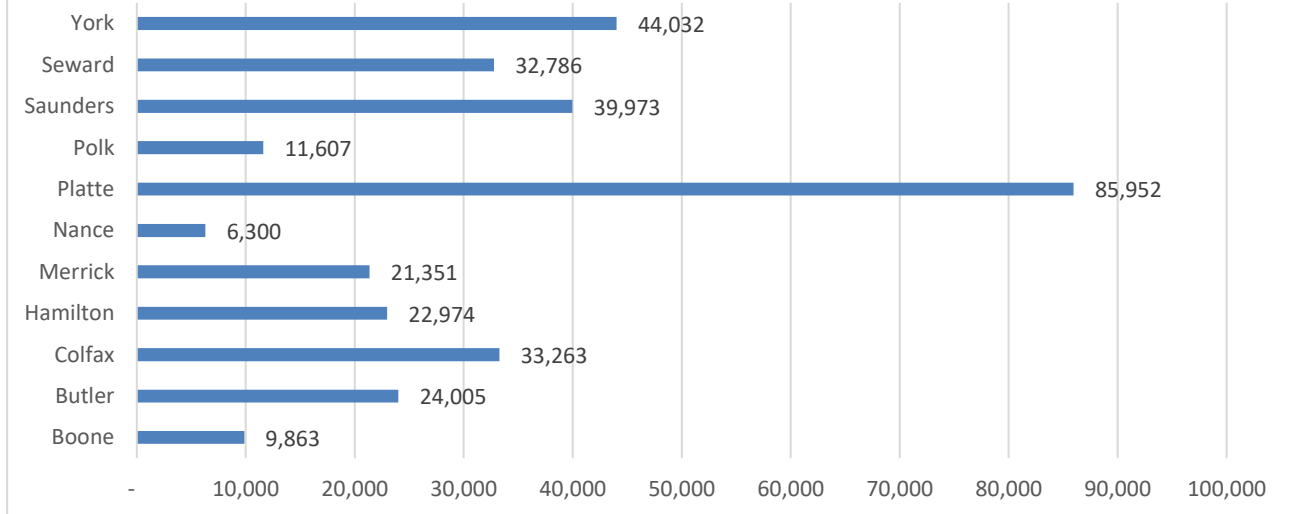
Predicted judicial resources need by county



Primary Counties Served by 5<sup>th</sup> District Judges



County Court Judicial District 5  
 Total Workload Minutes  
 Sum (cases x weight)

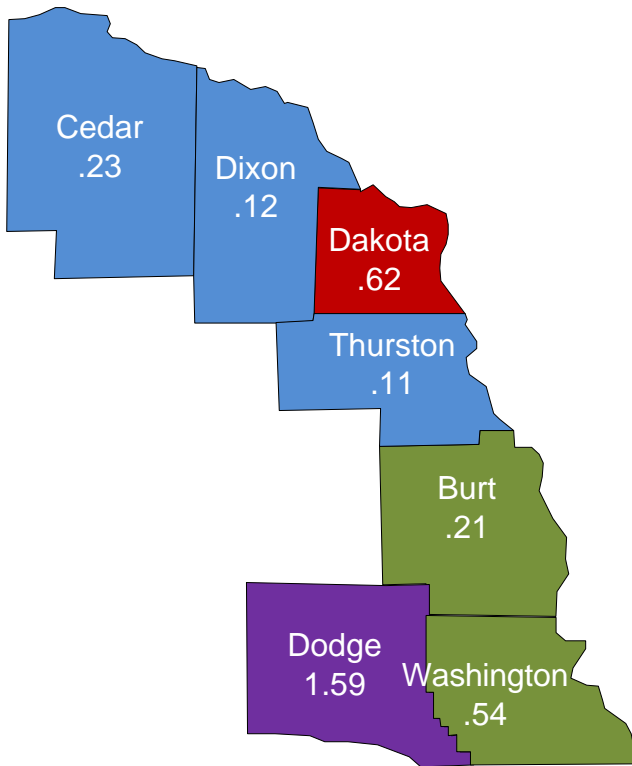


# Weighted Caseload Report

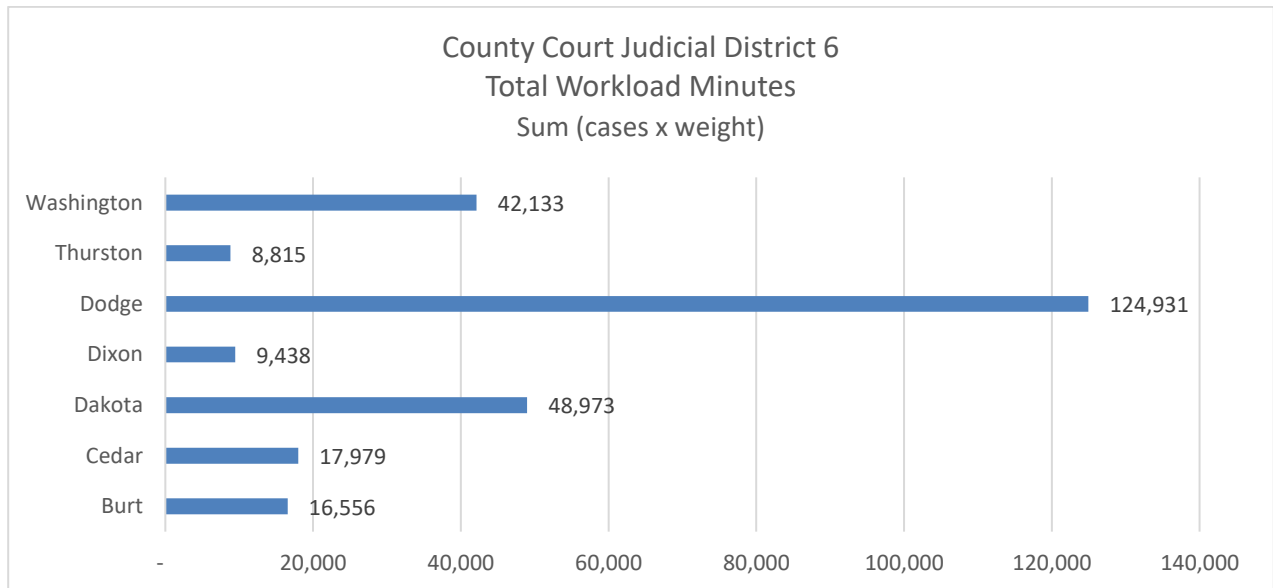
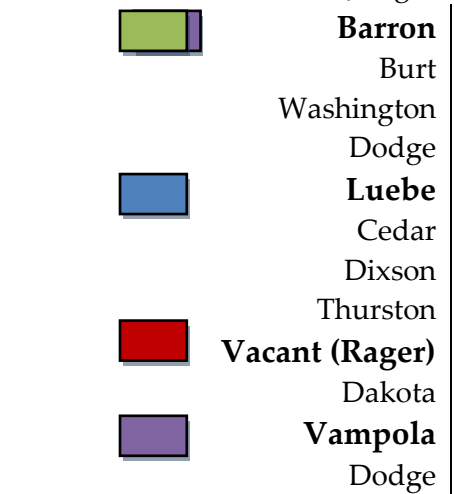
## 6th Judicial District - County Court

County court need for judges: 3.43  
 Current number of judges: 4  
 Workload per judge: 0.86

Predicted judicial resources need by county



Primary Counties Served by 6<sup>th</sup> District Judges

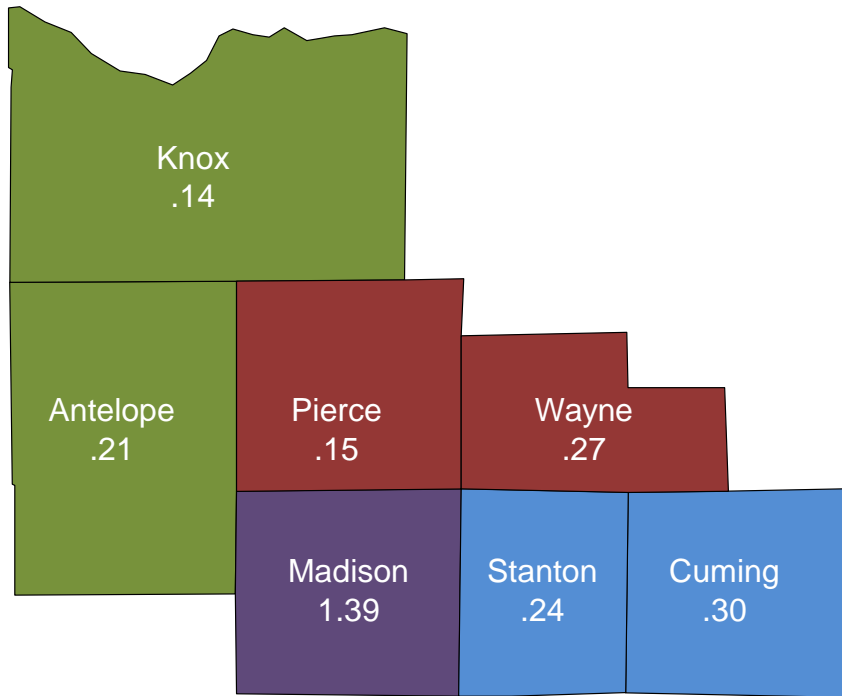


# Weighted Caseload Report

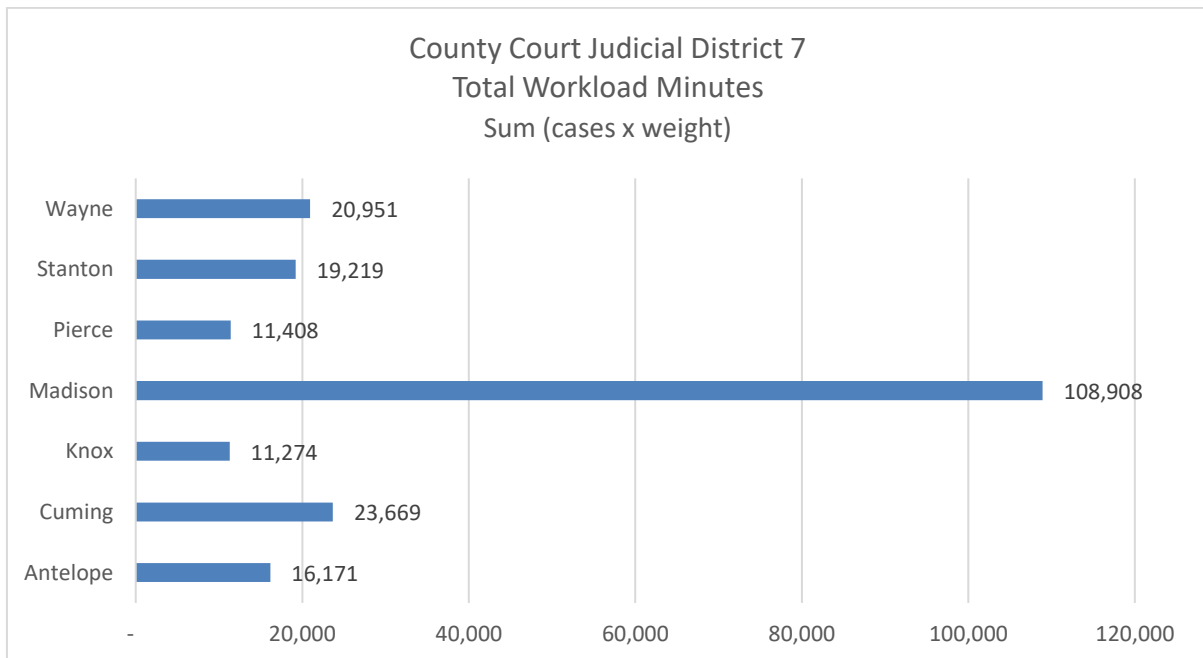
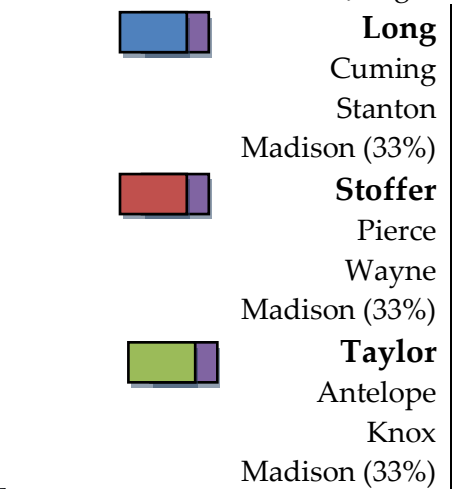
## 7th Judicial District - County Court

County court need for judges: 2.70  
 Current number of judges: 3  
 Workload per judge: 0.90

Predicted judicial resources need by county



Primary Counties Served by 7<sup>th</sup> District Judges



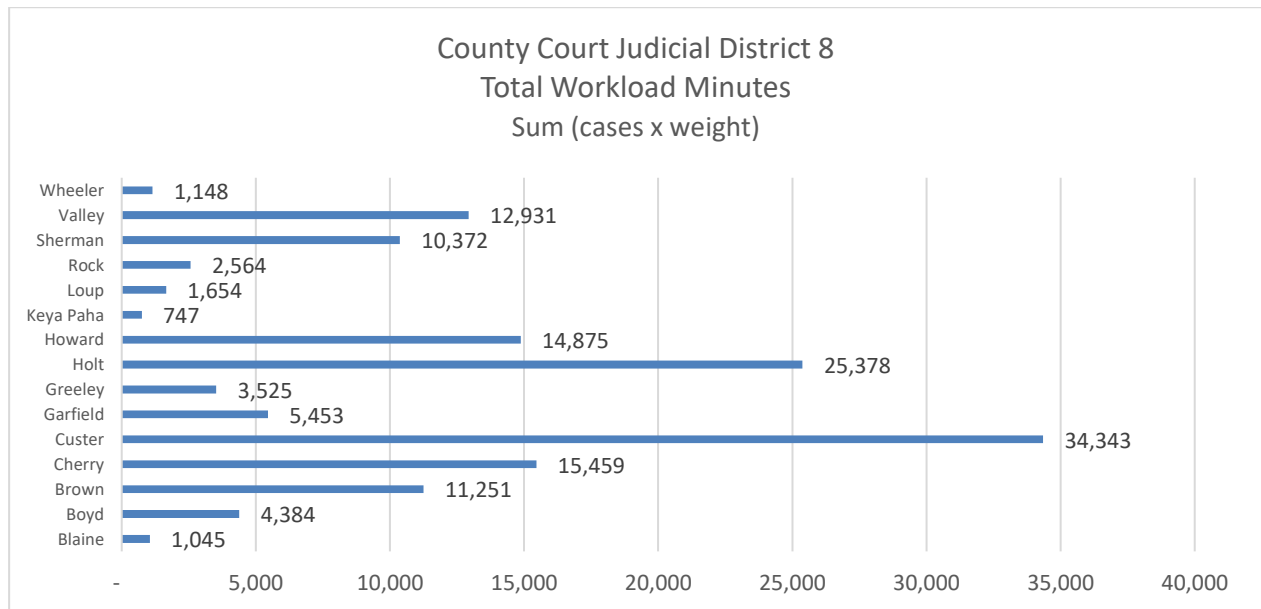
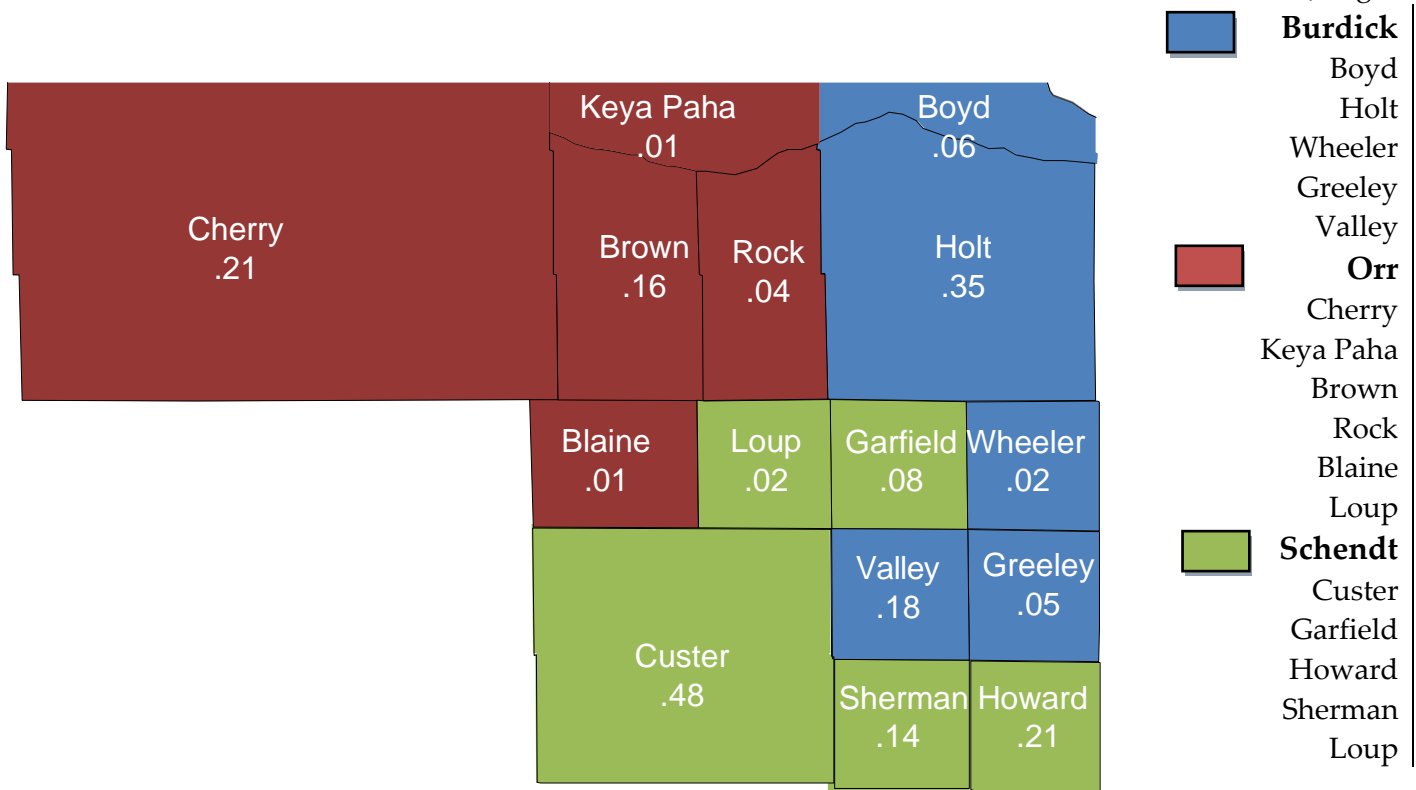
# Weighted Caseload Report

## 8th Judicial District - County Court

County court need for judges: 2.02  
 Current number of judges: 3  
 Workload per judge: 0.67

Predicted judicial resources need by county

Primary Counties Served by  
8th District Judges

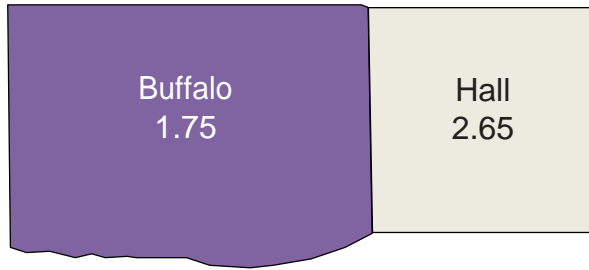


# Weighted Caseload Report

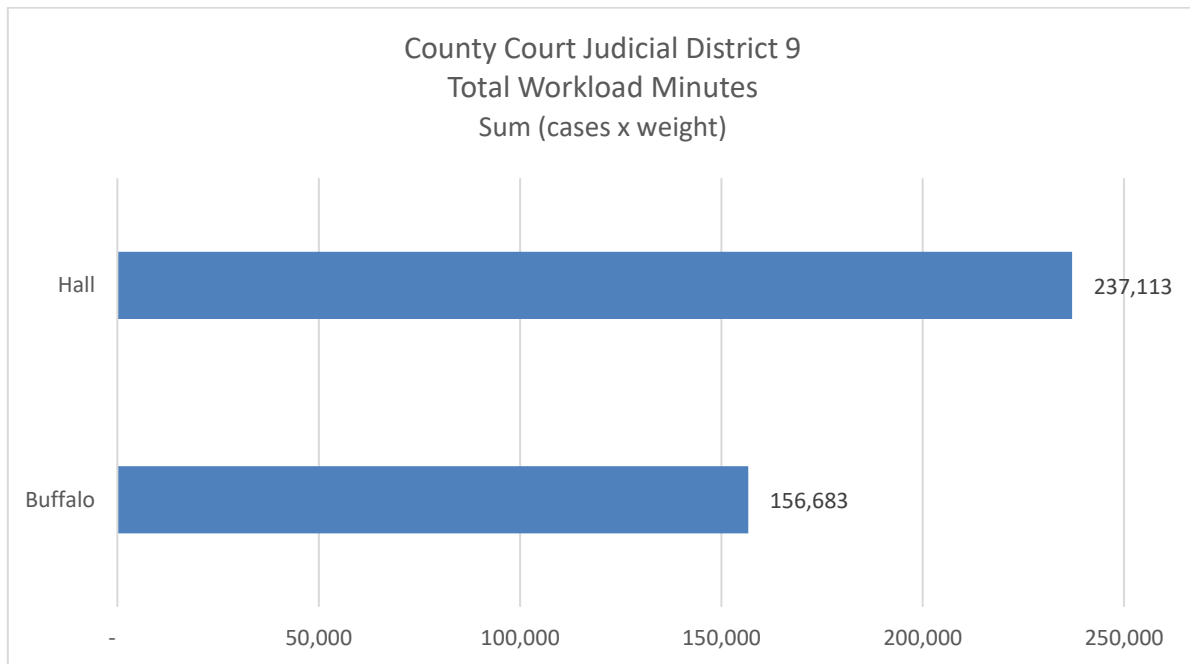
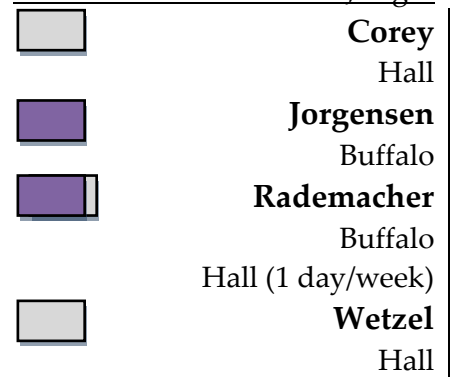
## 9th Judicial District - County Court

County court need for judges: 4.41  
 Current number of judges: 4  
 Workload per judge: 1.10

Predicted judicial resources need by county



Primary Counties Served by 9th District Judges

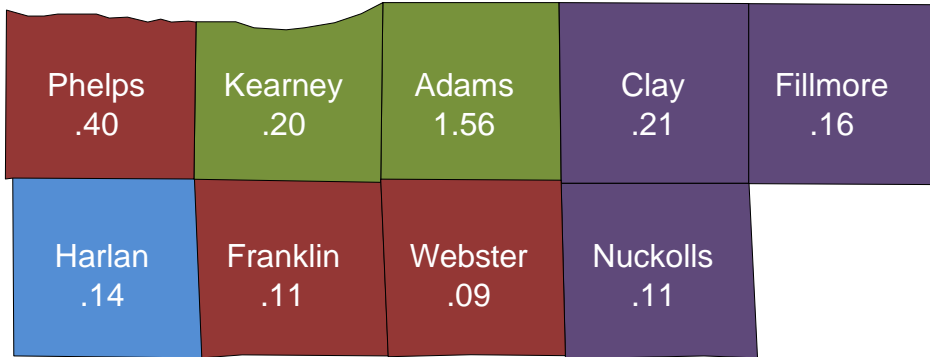


# Weighted Caseload Report

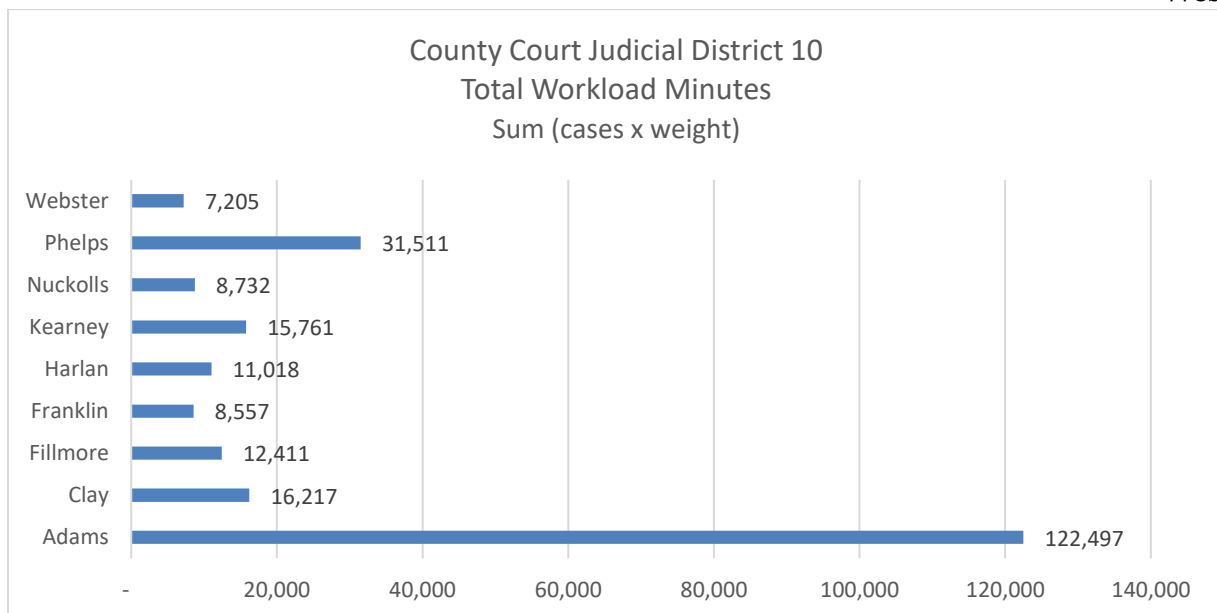
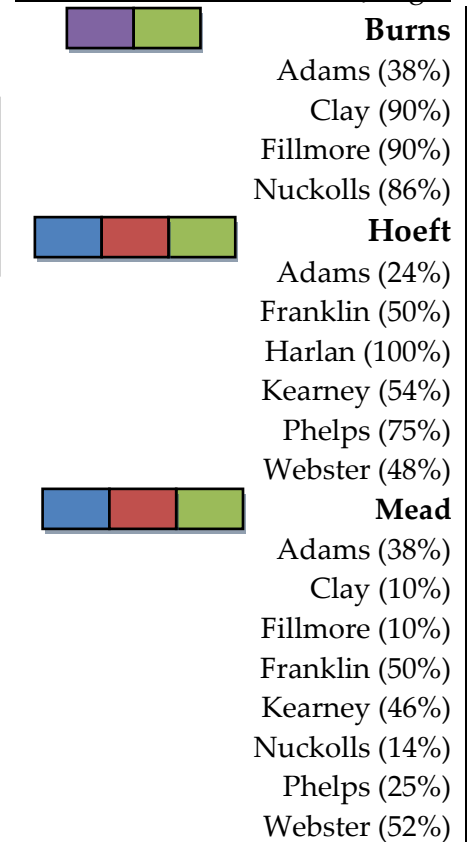
## 10th Judicial District - County Court

County court need for judges: 2.98  
 Current number of judges: 3  
 Workload per judge: 0.99

Predicted judicial resources need by county



Primary Counties Served by 10<sup>th</sup> District Judges

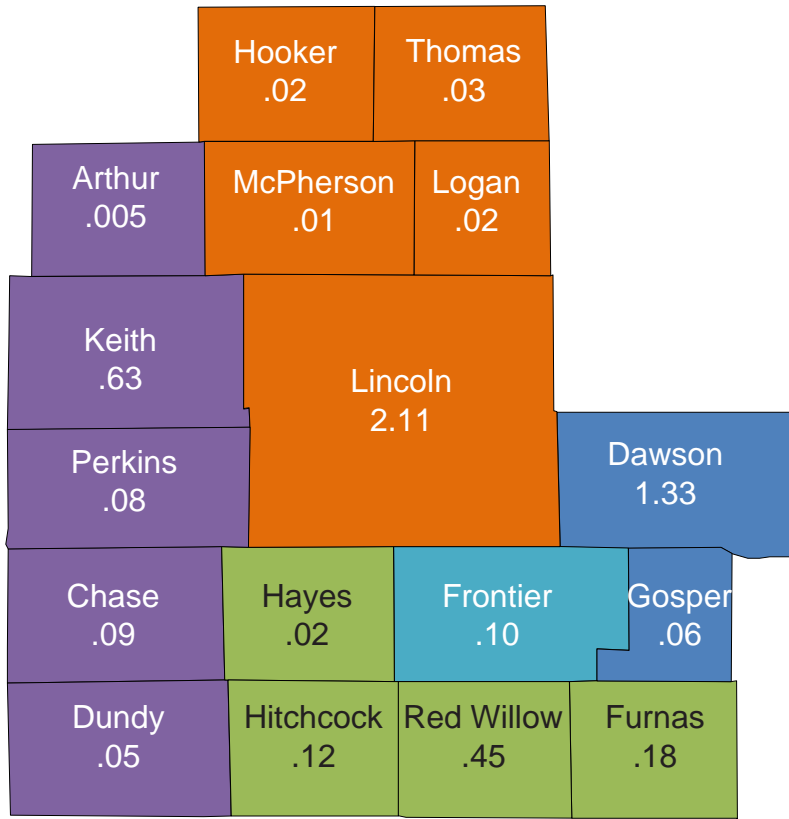


# Weighted Caseload Report

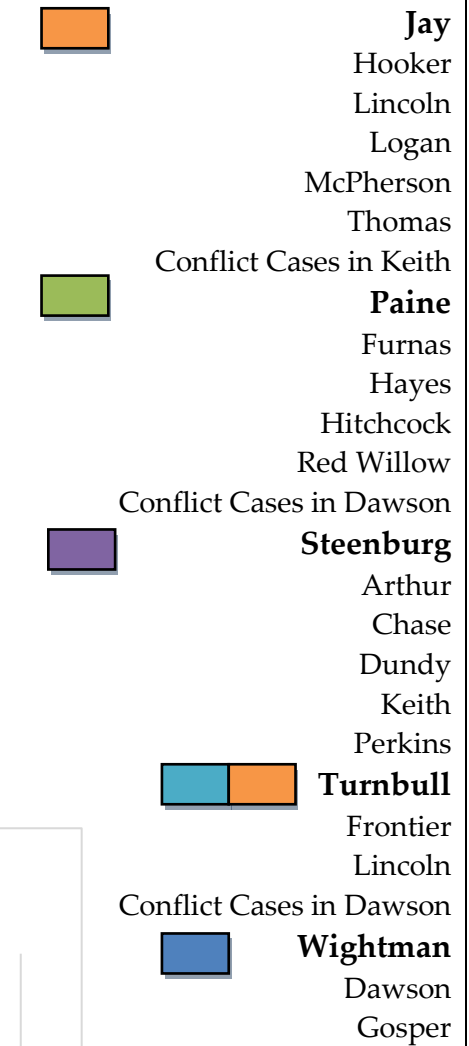
## 11th Judicial District - County Court

County court need for judges: 5.30  
 Current number of judges: 5  
 Workload per judge: 1.06

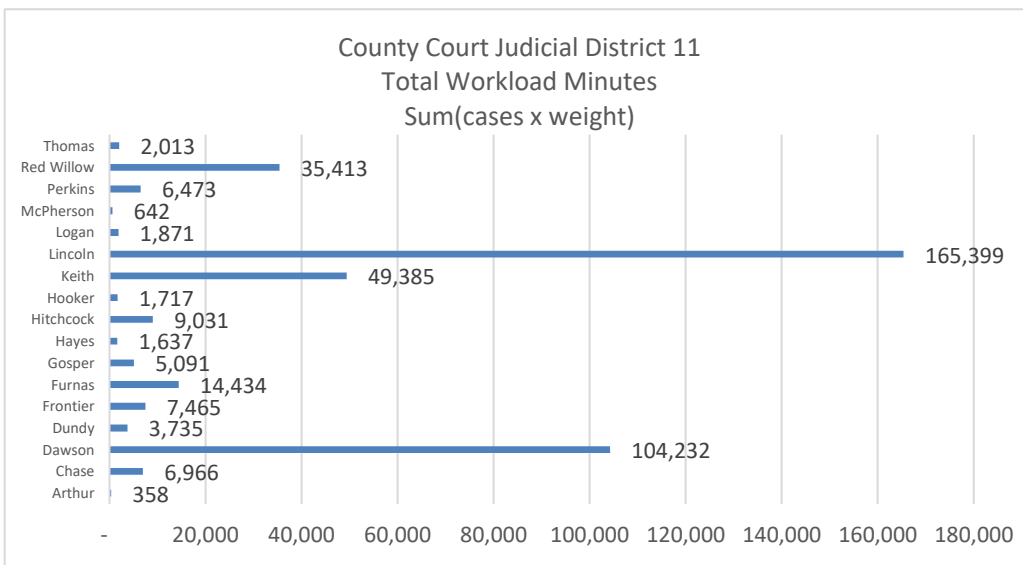
Predicted judicial resources need by county



Primary Counties Served by 11<sup>th</sup> District Judges



County Court Judicial District 11  
 Total Workload Minutes  
 Sum(cases x weight)

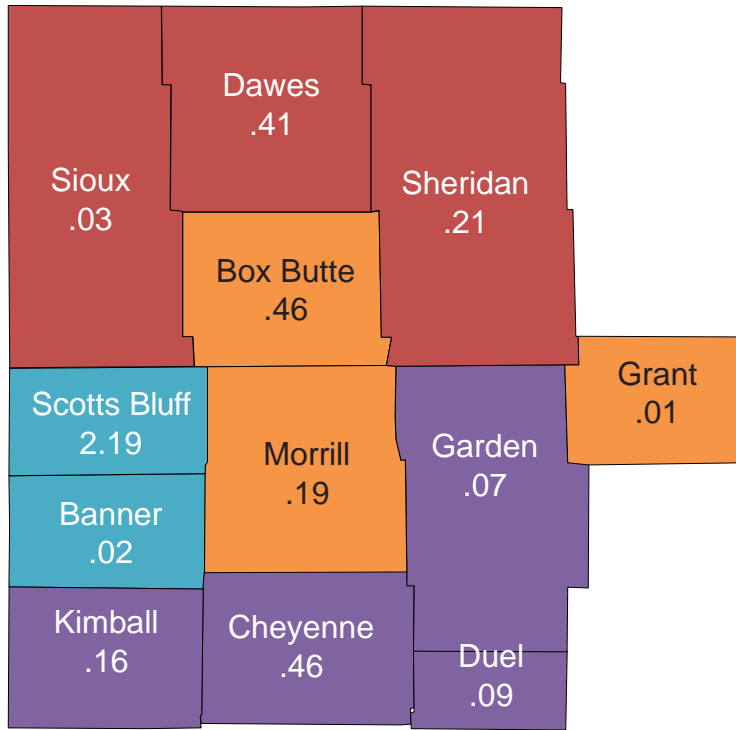


# Weighted Caseload Report

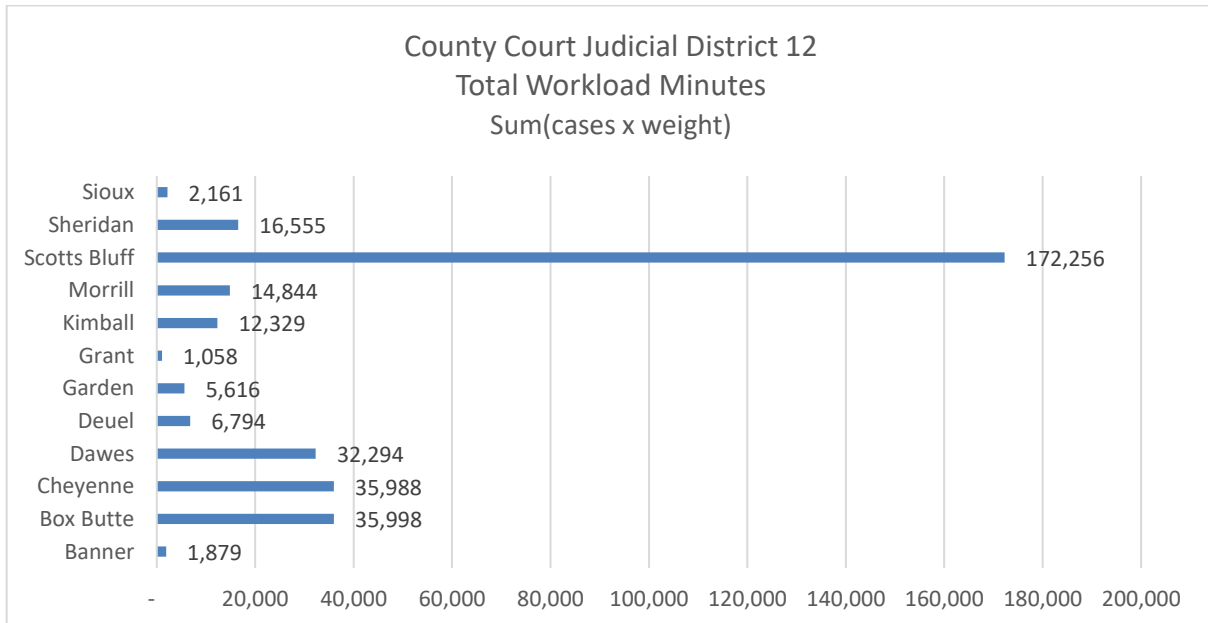
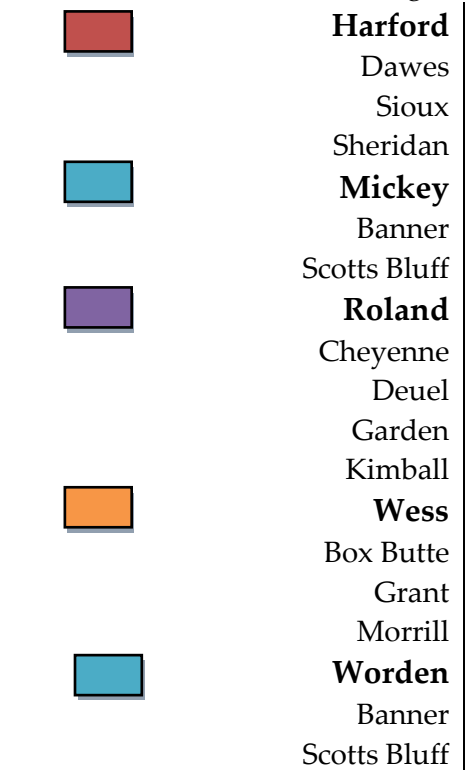
## 12th Judicial District - County Court

County court need for judges: 4.30  
 Current number of judges: 5  
 Workload per judge: 0.86

Predicted judicial resources need by county



Primary Counties Served by 12<sup>th</sup> District Judges





# Weighted Caseload Report

## Court Case Type Categories and Weights Appendix

District Court Case Types	2020 Case Weight (minutes)
Problem Solving Court Cases	683
Protection Orders	32
Civil	219
Class I Felony	367
Other Criminal	149
Domestic Relations	97
Appeals	343
Administrative Appeals	540
County Court Case Types	2020 Case Weight (minutes)
Protection Orders	32
Felony	26
Misdemeanor	23
District Court: Adult Problem-Solving Court	683
Traffic	1
Civil	8
Probate	61
Guardianship/Conservatorship	133
Small Claims	30
Adoption	92
Domestic Relations	97
Juvenile: 3A Children	487
Juvenile: Delinquency	100
Juvenile: Status Offender 3B	37
Juvenile: Mentally Ill and Dangerous 3C	265
Juvenile: Bridge to Independence (B21)	58
Juvenile: Interstate Compact Hearings/Filings	2
Juvenile: Problem-Solving Court Cases	654
Separate Juvenile Court Case Types	2020 Case Weight (minutes)
Adoption	49
Domestic Relations	26
Juvenile: 3A Children	487
Delinquency	136
Status Offender 3B	54
Mentally Ill and Dangerous 3C	265
Bridge to Independence B21	36
Interstate Compact Hearing/Filings	2
Problem Solving Court Cases	654