



PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE

**Senate and House Judiciary Committees
January 23, 2025**

1

Backlog Update (statewide) FY2024 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)

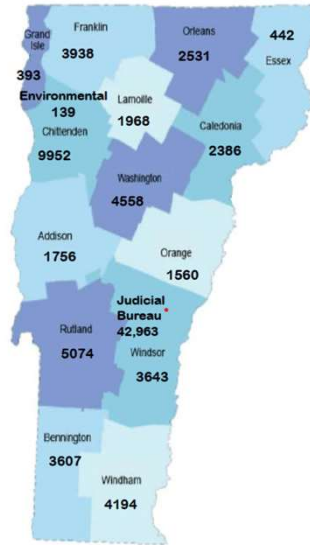
- 46,141 incoming cases
- 48,714 outgoing cases
- 105% clearance rate



2

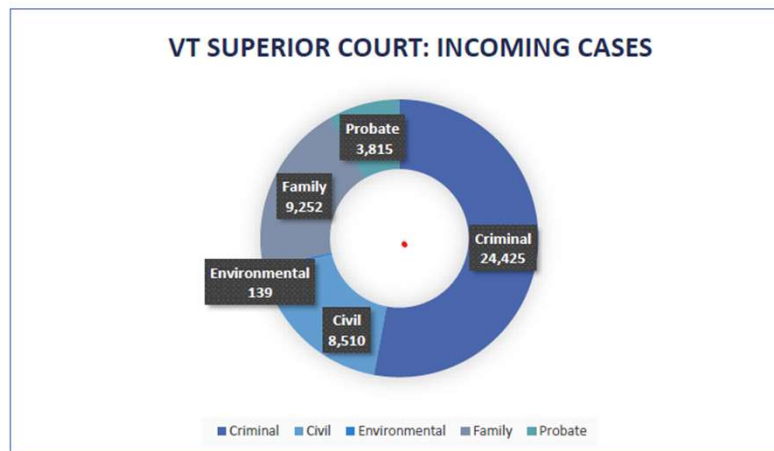
FY24 Incoming Cases

| Incoming Cases | | | | | |
|-----------------|----------|-------|--------|---------|-------|
| By Division | | | | | |
| | Criminal | Civil | Family | Probate | Total |
| Addison | 758 | 350 | 426 | 222 | 1756 |
| Bennington | 2013 | 569 | 732 | 293 | 3607 |
| Caledonia | 1278 | 409 | 469 | 230 | 2386 |
| Chittenden | 5547 | 1925 | 1784 | 696 | 9952 |
| Essex | 222 | 91 | 80 | 49 | 442 |
| Franklin | 2125 | 730 | 794 | 289 | 3938 |
| Grand Isle | 141 | 107 | 97 | 48 | 393 |
| Lamoille | 1155 | 301 | 379 | 133 | 1968 |
| Orange | 732 | 325 | 362 | 141 | 1560 |
| Orleans | 1359 | 473 | 499 | 200 | 2531 |
| Rutland | 2492 | 942 | 1152 | 488 | 5074 |
| Washington | 2552 | 782 | 905 | 319 | 4558 |
| Windham | 2257 | 663 | 956 | 318 | 4194 |
| Windsor | 1794 | 843 | 617 | 389 | 3643 |
| Environmental | | 139 | | | 139 |
| Judicial Bureau | | 42963 | | | 46141 |



3

FY24 Incoming Cases by Division



4

FY24 Criminal Division Cases

| | Incoming | Outgoing | Pending active | Clearance Rate |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------------|----------------|
| • Felony | 6,188 | 6,629 | 4,290 | 107% |
| • Misdemeanor | 16,720 | 18,191 | 9,951 | 109% |



5

Comparison FY23 and FY24 Statistics

| | Backlog | Filings | Clearance Rate |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|
| • Criminal Division | 12% Decrease | 8% Increase | 3% Increase (109%) |
| • Civil Division | 14% Decrease | 14% Decrease | 2% Increase (108%) |
| • Family Division | 7% Increase | 3% Decrease | 3% Decrease (97%) |
| • Probate Division | 0% Change | 2% Increase | 4% Increase (100%) |



6

New Judge Positions – Status Report

- Dedicated Statewide Juvenile Judge
- Dedicated Statewide Treatment Court Judge
- Creation of Northwest Float Position
- One Judge Added to Northeast Kingdom



7

Other New Positions – Status Report

- 10 Judicial Assistants
- 5 Tech Positions
- 11 Security Positions



8

Criminal Case Management Strategies

- Adding Jury Draw and Trial Dates
- Cases with Defendants with Multiple Charges
- Changes of Plea in Conjunction with Jury Draws
- Frequent Review of Data Reports



9

Remote Hearings at Correctional Facilities

- Tech Improvements
- Challenges
- Proposal to add One Position per Facility



10

Access to Justice

- Access Resource Center
- Judiciary Commission on Mental Health and the Courts
- Judiciary Committee on Artificial Intelligence and the Courts



11

Questions?

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



12