



STATISTICAL AND OPERATIONAL REPORT OF  
COURT PROGRAMS

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## CHILD CUSTODY AND VISITATION MEDIATION AND PERMANENCY MEDIATION



In 1989, the General Assembly enacted G.S. 7A-494 requiring the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC) to provide statewide, uniform child custody mediation services to assist parents in the resolution of custody and / or visitation lawsuits. The Child Custody and Visitation Mediation Program provides a confidential and non-adversarial setting where parents meet with a professional staff mediator who is neutral to the outcome of their dispute. The mediator structures and facilitates a collaborative process that fosters a productive exchange of information. Parents are afforded the opportunity to design a Parenting Agreement, which is incorporated into a court order, sparing the family from the stress and anxiety of extended litigation. The Child Custody and Visitation Mediation Program is available in each judicial district. In fiscal year (FY) 2023-24, 8,653 custody cases were mediated statewide and 18,013 people attended custody mediation orientation. Mediators conducted 9,265 mediation sessions and drafted 3,967 parenting agreements.

For more information on the Child Custody and Visitation Mediation Program, visit:  
[www.nccourts.gov/programs/child-custody-and-visitiation-mediation-program](http://www.nccourts.gov/programs/child-custody-and-visitiation-mediation-program).

In 2006, the General Assembly enacted G.S. 7B-202 authorizing the NCAOC to establish in phases a statewide permanency mediation program for cases in which a juvenile is alleged or has been adjudicated to be abused, neglected, or dependent, or in which a petition or motion to terminate a parent's rights has been filed. Goals for the program include the permanent placement of children in a timely manner within the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) guidelines, improving the participants' understanding of the nature and purpose of the proceeding, as well as a reduction in the number and length of court hearings and a decline of re-litigation. Permanency mediators are contract employees and utilize a co-mediation model.

For more information on the Permanency Mediation Program, visit:  
[www.nccourts.gov/programs/permanency-planning-mediation-program](http://www.nccourts.gov/programs/permanency-planning-mediation-program).

**Child Custody and Visitation Mediation, Caseload by District**

District	New Custody Cases	Returning Custody Cases*	Orientation Attendance	Mediation Sessions	Drafted Parenting Agreements	Parenting Agreements Entered	Custody Mediation Completed. No Parenting Agreement	Total Cases Mediated	Cases Not Mediated**	Cases disposed by CM office
1****	162	73	257	123	58	30	88	118	110	228
2****	57	24	84	51	23	15	47	62	31	93
3	164	72	302	193	66	36	143	179	55	234
4	90	43	186	114	50	40	64	104	45	149
5	197	169	570	299	161	73	219	292	66	358
6	462	195	714	424	184	88	287	375	260	635
7	95	42	181	85	44	34	48	82	53	135
8	206	101	470	90	67	54	63	117	107	224
9	189	120	339	252	119	90	134	224	92	316
10	1409	700	1741	753	226	160	590	750	1324	2074
11****	162	63	395	238	88	96	137	233	78	311
12***	343	94	634	321	133	0	266	266	178	444
14	672	273	1033	504	235	178	300	478	456	934
15	281	96	461	263	141	99	154	253	57	310
16****	378	265	565	355	155	88	223	311	292	603
17****	148	54	208	153	76	56	70	126	89	215
18****	81	20	72	45	12	6	23	29	13	42
20	146	62	258	156	78	48	96	144	59	203
21	79	45	162	83	30	23	47	70	52	122
22	56	18	112	78	34	24	48	72	7	79
23	102	30	190	121	62	43	61	104	19	123
24****	435	149	772	454	230	171	274	445	167	612
25	236	41	416	207	78	58	108	166	87	253
26****	1176	432	1609	604	184	145	463	608	810	1418
27	136	64	354	225	99	69	119	188	14	202
28	94	52	223	118	49	29	72	101	53	154

*[continued on next page]*

**Child Custody and Visitation Mediation, Caseload by District**

District	New Custody Cases	Returning Custody Cases*	Orientation Attendance	Mediation Sessions	Drafted Parenting Agreements	Parenting Agreements Entered	Custody Mediation Completed. No Parenting Agreement	Total Cases Mediated	Cases Not Mediated**	Cases disposed by CM office
29	193	109	382	228	89	51	153	204	95	299
30	269	87	395	213	103	57	135	192	182	374
31	342	176	799	339	149	81	248	329	162	491
32	100	72	164	89	23	14	77	91	74	165
33	130	62	216	112	33	15	94	109	70	179
34	144	97	273	198	129	105	70	175	70	245
35	123	25	165	78	23	19	55	74	161	235
36	372	234	869	446	148	91	306	397	220	617
37	171	104	355	194	100	81	106	187	98	285
38	118	54	257	177	99	53	114	167	10	177
39	128	54	330	164	89	52	108	160	35	195
40	355	206	669	315	150	107	184	291	309	600
41	147	52	246	137	71	52	74	126	65	191
42	153	104	290	165	49	29	124	153	153	306
43	154	37	295	101	30	11	90	101	102	203
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,455</b>	<b>4,770</b>	<b>18,013</b>	<b>9,265</b>	<b>3,967</b>	<b>2,571</b>	<b>6,082</b>	<b>8,653</b>	<b>6,380</b>	<b>15,033</b>

\*Cases can return in a variety of ways: modification, judge sends case back to custody mediation, parties return before court appearance, contempt, and through temporary Parenting Agreements.

\*\* Cases are not mediated for a variety of reasons: exemption, dismissal, entry of consent order, lack of service, and failure to attend.

\*\*\*Agreements are signed with attorneys and cannot be accurately tracked.

\*\*\*\*Districts transitioned to Enterprise Justice mid-year. Statistics were generated from CaseWise and Enterprise Justice.

## RECOVERY COURTS



Recovery Courts are an intensive, judicially supervised court sanction that targets addicted, high-risk and high-need adult offenders, juveniles who have been adjudicated delinquent, and parents involved in abuse / neglect / dependency cases. Recovery courts utilize a team of court and community professionals who closely manage cases so that participants can become healthy, law-abiding, and productive family and community members. Adult Recovery Court is an intermediate punishment in the community that targets repeat offenders. Juvenile Recovery Court works with community-based, high-risk, high-need juvenile offenders whose drug and / or alcohol use is negatively affecting their lives at home, in school, and in their community. Family Recovery Court works with parents and guardians who are in danger of termination of parental rights due to the abuse or neglect of their children. Other treatment / recovery courts in North Carolina include DWI Courts, Mental Health Courts, and Veterans Treatment Courts.

Recovery Court enrollment typically last a minimum of one year and includes intensive outpatient treatment, frequent and random drug / alcohol testing, and intensive case management, as well as probation supervision for adult and juvenile offenders. The Recovery Court participant works with the Recovery Court team of community professionals to develop a single, comprehensive treatment case plan addressing the individual's specific needs regarding substance abuse, mental health, occupational / vocational, educational, housing, parenting, and other areas of concern. Participants appear in court every two weeks before a specially trained judge who monitors the individual's progress on his / her treatment plan and compliance with other court conditions. The judge may order sanctions and / or incentives as appropriate to promote success. During FY 2023-24, there were 68 operational treatment / recovery courts in 36 counties, and 10 additional recovery courts in their planning phase.

The North Carolina Drug Treatment Court Act of 1995 (G.S. 7A-790 et seq.) directs the NCAOC director to provide necessary staff for planning, organizing, and administering the DTC Program. A state advisory committee was created to recommend guidelines to the director and monitor local programs. NCAOC, along with the state Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee, has developed best practices and minimum standards for

the operation of North Carolina drug treatment courts. Judicial districts desiring to operate an adult, juvenile, or family drug treatment court program must operate under the North Carolina Drug Treatment Court Act of 1995 and established guidelines.

As of July 1, 2011, the General Assembly eliminated all state funding for DTC coordinators responsible for managing local DTCs/Recovery Courts. However, most courts were able to continue after July 2011 because they found county, city, or other resources for staff to manage their courts locally.

In 2021, the General Assembly enacted the North Carolina Judicially Managed Accountability and Recovery Court Act recognizing that a critical need exists in this State for judicial programs that will reduce the incidence of alcohol and other substance abuse or dependence and crimes, including the offense of driving while impaired, delinquent acts, and child abuse and neglect committed as a result of alcohol and other substance abuse or dependence; child abuse and neglect where alcohol and other substance abuse or dependence are significant factors in the child abuse and neglect; and offenses, delinquent acts, and child abuse and neglect where mental, behavioral, or medical health is a significant factor in commission of the offense or act.

It is the intent of the General Assembly to create a program to facilitate the creation and operation of judicially managed accountability and recovery courts (JMARCS). The North Carolina Judicially Managed Accountability and Recovery Court Act of 2021 directs the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts to provide any necessary staff for planning, organizing, and administering the program. Local recovery court programs funded pursuant to this Article shall be operated consistently with the guidelines adopted pursuant to G.S. 7A-795 (The North Carolina Drug Treatment Court Act of 1995).

In March 2024, NCAOC submitted its annual report on Judicially Managed Accountability and Recovery Courts. For more information about treatment / recovery courts, including legislative reports, minimum standards, and best practices, visit [www.nccourts.gov/courts/recovery-courts](http://www.nccourts.gov/courts/recovery-courts).

## FAMILY FINANCIAL SETTLEMENT

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In 1997, the General Assembly authorized the design and implementation of a pilot program for pretrial mediation of equitable distribution and other family financial cases (G.S. 7A-38.4A). The Supreme Court of North Carolina adopted rules on December 30, 1998, which became effective March 1, 1999, for pilot sites to use to implement the program. The Supreme Court revised these rules to make the program mandatory statewide by March 1, 2007. The rules were last updated in May 2023.

The Family Financial Settlement Program creates a settlement opportunity for parties and their attorneys who might otherwise fight a protracted court battle over issues of property division, child support, or alimony. Parties participate in mediation or another dispute resolution alternative, such as early neutral evaluation or a judicial settlement procedure. Once a settlement procedure is ordered, the parties and their counsel must participate, unless excused by the court.

During mediation, the most used procedure, the parties and their attorneys meet with a mediator to attempt to resolve the issues in dispute. If mediation is successful, the parties will settle the dispute on their own terms. Participation in mediation also eliminates the need for lengthy litigation and potentially prevents a costly and often acrimonious trial. Parties who have been victims of domestic violence may be excused by the court from physically attending or participating in a mediated settlement conference or other settlement procedure. For fiscal year (FY) 2023-24, 2,577 cases were referred to family financial settlement or some other settlement procedure and 2,022 cases completed the process.

For more information about family financial settlement, including program rules, visit [www.NCcourts.gov/programs/family-financial-settlement-program](http://www.NCcourts.gov/programs/family-financial-settlement-program).

**Family Financial Settlement Activity, Caseload by District**

District	Cases Ordered to Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)					Total Caseload	Cases Exiting from ADR Process						Cases Completing Process	End Pending (6/30/24)	
	*Begin Pending (7/1/23)	Ordered to Mediation Settlement Conference	Voluntarily Submitted to Mediation Settlement Conference	Ordered to Judicial Settlement Conference	Submitted to Other Settlement Procedure		Ordered Exempt From ADR	Settled Prior to or During ADR Recess	All Issues Resolved With ADR	Some Issues Resolved With ADR	No Issues Resolved With ADR	Disposed Without ADR			
1*	0	4	0	0	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
2*	28	8	0	0	0	36	0	0	3	0	2	1	6	30	
3	65	40	0	0	0	105	0	0	12	0	6	0	18	87	
04	36	124	0	0	0	160	2	97	2	2	2	8	113	47	
5	155	0	10	0	0	165	1	1	18	3	11	6	40	125	
6	451	237	0	0	0	688	1	0	80	2	14	113	210	478	
7	26	4	0	0	0	30	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	28	
8	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	3	0	4	0	
9	43	23	0	0	0	66	0	1	9	0	3	0	13	53	
10*	794	272	1	0	1	1068	0	0	43	11	26	1	81	987	
11*	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
12*	848	270	0	0	0	1118	9	5	58	2	28	117	210	908	
14	235	232	0	0	0	467	6	24	72	21	28	74	225	242	
15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
16*	94	30	3	1	0	128	0	0	23	7	14	4	48	114	
17*	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	0	
18*	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
20	225	33	0	0	0	258	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	258	
21	8	24	1	0	0	33	1	0	12	0	1	5	19	14	
22	27	5	1	0	0	33	0	0	1	1	0	1	3	30	
23	82	63	0	0	0	145	2	0	11	1	1	49	64	81	
24*	326	183	1	0	0	510	0	0	49	12	10	140	49	461	
25	153	1	0	1	0	155	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	155	
26*	142	0	0	0	6	148	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	148	
27	23	34	0	0	0	57	0	2	21	1	8	1	33	24	
28	13	36	0	0	0	49	0	0	10	4	7	11	32	17	

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**Family Financial Settlement Activity, Caseload by District**

District	*Begin Pending (7/1/23)	Cases Ordered to Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)				Total Caseload	Cases Exiting from ADR Process						Cases Completing Process	End Pending (6/30/24)
		Ordered to Mediation Settlement Conference	Voluntarily Submitted to Mediation Settlement Conference	Ordered to Judicial Settlement Conference	Submitted to Other Settlement Procedure		Ordered Exempt From ADR	Settled Prior to or During ADR Recess	All Issues Resolved With ADR	Some Issues Resolved With ADR	No Issues Resolved With ADR	Disposed Without ADR		
29	142	92	0	0	0	234	0	14	77	2	7	9	109	125
30	515	137	0	0	0	652	0	0	10	2	3	0	15	637
31	370	79	1	0	0	450	0	0	78	0	1	0	79	371
32	0	12	59	0	0	71	0	0	40	7	24	0	71	0
33	12	2	5	0	0	19	0	0	5	1	2	0	8	11
34	68	59	0	0	0	127	2	17	14	0	7	4	44	83
35	57	6	0	0	0	63	0	1	8	0	3	0	12	51
36	359	143	0	0	0	502	0	0	7	1	8	8	24	478
37	22	38	0	20	0	80	2	19	20	2	6	0	49	31
38	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
39	249	0	0	0	0	249	0	0	3	0	0	190	193	56
40	85	73	0	0	0	158	1	0	20	2	14	47	84	74
41	43	29	0	0	0	72	3	0	14	3	5	20	45	27
42	138	12	42	16	1	209	0	2	14	0	17	27	60	149
43	69	53	2	2	0	126	0	4	16	0	16	19	55	71
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,907</b>	<b>2,363</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8,450</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>2,022</b>	<b>6,463</b>

\*Data generated from Enterprise Justice (Odyssey)

Begin pending data are based on end pending numbers reported at the end of the Q3 report for FY23-24.

## SUPERIOR COURT MEDIATED SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE



In 1991, the North Carolina General Assembly established a pilot Mediated Settlement Conference (MSC). The Mediated Settlement Program was designed to foster settlement in civil superior court actions. MSC facilitates the opportunity for parties to resolve civil matters prior to trial in cases filed in superior court. Pursuant to G.S. 7A-38.1 and the Supreme Court of North Carolina’s Rules Implementing Mediated Settlement Conferences (MSC Rules), referral to mediated settlement is mandatory for civil actions pending in superior court, unless the parties agree to participate in one of the other available options through the MSC Rules. The only cases excluded

from mandatory referral are actions in which a party is seeking the issuance of an extraordinary writ or is appealing the revocation of a motor vehicle operator’s license. For fiscal year (FY) 2023-24, 7,745 cases were referred to MSC, voluntarily submitted to MSC, ordered to complete other settlement procedure. 5,543 cases completed the MSC process.

MSC Rules were last updated in May 2023. For more information about the Mediated Settlement Conference Program, visit [www.nccourts.gov/programs/mediated-settlement-conference-program](http://www.nccourts.gov/programs/mediated-settlement-conference-program).

**Mediated Settlement Conference Activity, Caseload by District**

Superior Court District	*Begin Pending (7/1/23)	Cases Entering Mediated Settlement Conference (MSC)			Total Caseload	Cases Exiting from MSC Process					Cases Completing Process	End Pending (6/30/24)
		Ordered to Mediated Settlement Conference	Voluntarily Submitted to Mediated Settlement Conference	Ordered or Submitted to Other Settlement Procedure		Ordered Exempt From MSC	Settled Prior to or During MSC Recess	All Issues Resolved With MSC	No Issues Resolved With MSC	Disposed Without MSC		
01*	5	19	0	0	24	0	0	5	0	0	5	19
02*	133	51	1	0	185	0	0	16	4	6	26	159
03	75	83	9	0	167	0	21	41	34	8	104	63
04	465	110	0	0	575	0	0	42	34	9	85	490
05	202	176	10	0	388	0	2	49	21	6	78	310
06	526	374	2	0	902	0	6	68	40	252	366	536
07A	134	18	0	0	152	1	1	8	0	8	18	134
07B	56	6	0	0	62	0	0	4	0	0	4	58
08A	125	52	3	0	180	1	20	21	30	18	90	90
08BC	263	142	9	0	414	0	75	2	27	9	113	301
09A	76	38	0	0	114	0	3	13	11	60	87	27
09B	113	152	0	6	271	0	10	28	12	86	136	135
10*	746	874	0	0	1620	3	3	200	114	166	487	1133
11*	85	91	1	0	177	0	0	26	20	28	74	103
12*	222	35	0	0	257	0	0	6	4	0	10	247
13*	1094	247	0	0	1341	56	0	32	27	14	130	1211
14	412	187	0	0	599	24	39	67	37	53	220	379
15A	62	69	0	0	131	0	9	19	5	16	49	82
15B	825	228	0	0	1053	0	1	31	22	117	171	882
16*	402	237	6	3	648	4	34	68	39	19	164	484
17*	101	80	0	0	181	1	0	24	21	16	62	119
18*	74	103	4	3	184	0	6	25	15	28	75	109
19	259	143	0	0	402	0	0	41	30	0	71	331
20	71	38	0	0	109	0	10	31	18	0	59	50
21	79	65	1	0	145	2	9	26	17	25	79	66
22	105	24	0	0	129	0	0	2	2	0	4	125

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**Mediated Settlement Conference Activity, Caseload by District**

Superior Court District	*Begin Pending (7/1/23)	Cases Entering Mediated Settlement Conference (MSC)			Total Caseload	Cases Exiting from MSC Process					Cases Completing Process	End Pending (6/30/24)
		Ordered to Mediated Settlement Conference	Voluntarily Submitted to Mediated Settlement Conference	Ordered or Submitted to Other Settlement Procedure		Ordered Exempt From MSC	Settled Prior to or During MSC Recess	All Issues Resolved With MSC	No Issues Resolved With MSC	Disposed Without MSC		
23	79	60	10	0	149	0	2	5	4	1	12	137
24*	924	371	0	0	1295	1	74	113	59	1	255	1040
25	333	177	0	0	510	0	0	2	4	0	6	504
26*	2068	1369	8	20	3465	1	46	400	218	184	854	2611
27	84	76	2	0	162	0	27	40	19	11	97	65
28	30	31	6	0	67	0	1	13	22	4	40	27
29	323	72	2	1	398	0	19	66	32	163	280	118
30	99	163	11	0	273	0	0	62	47	53	162	111
31	1089	360	0	0	1449	29	0	37	12	12	90	1359
32	161	218	0	0	379	0	10	47	39	52	148	231
33	171	143	1	1	316	0	52	45	33	24	154	162
34	102	100	4	0	206	1	2	21	25	36	85	121
35	120	70	7	0	197	1	1	23	24	36	85	112
36	290	74	0	0	364	0	0	1	0	0	1	363
37	104	44	20	0	168	1	21	31	18	70	141	27
38	130	138	0	0	268	0	0	2	2	0	4	264
39	217	89	0	0	306	0	1	44	13	9	67	239
40	598	114	2	0	714	1	1	42	43	0	87	627
41	237	54	0	0	291	0	3	10	3	0	16	275
42	111	95	1	1	208	0	10	30	47	21	108	100
43A	165	54	0	0	219	0	0	17	10	17	44	175
43B	56	76	0	0	132	1	0	20	12	7	40	92
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,201</b>	<b>7,590</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>21,946</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>1,966</b>	<b>1,270</b>	<b>1,645</b>	<b>5,543</b>	<b>16,403</b>

\*Data generated from Enterprise Justice (Odyssey)

Begin pending data are based on end pending numbers reported at the end of the Q3 report for FY23-24.

## COURT-ORDERED ARBITRATION



In 1989, following successful experience in a pilot program, the General Assembly authorized court-ordered, non-binding arbitration statewide. The program currently operates in 74 counties. In these counties, civil cases involving claims for money damages of \$25,000 or less are subject to court-ordered, nonbinding arbitration in accordance with the Supreme Court's Rules for Court-Ordered Arbitration in North Carolina, pursuant to G.S. 7A-37.1. The rules specifically exclude from arbitration certain property disputes, family law matters, estates, special proceedings, actions where collection on an account is the sole claim, and class actions. The Rules were codified in February 2023.

By rule, the arbitration hearing is scheduled to begin within 60 days after (i) the docketing of an appeal from a magistrate's judgment, (ii) the filing of the last responsive pleading, or (iii) the expiration of the time allowed for the filing of such pleading. The court will appoint a trained arbitrator from a list of attorneys approved by the chief district court judge in each district. Unless determined to be indigent, parties are required to pay a pro rata share of a \$100 arbitration

assessment fee for each arbitration prior to the hearing. Upon making application for payment to the NCAOC, arbitrators are paid a \$100 fee for each arbitration hearing they conduct.

As a rule, arbitration hearings take place in the courthouse or through remote audio video transmission and are limited to one hour. The hearings are conducted in a serious but relaxed atmosphere, with the rules of evidence serving only as a guide. Once the hearing is concluded, the arbitrator renders an award, which is filed with the court. A party dissatisfied with the award may demand a trial de novo by filing a written request with the court. If the parties do not demand a trial de novo or otherwise file a consent order or dismissal, the court enters judgment on the arbitration award. For fiscal year (FY) 2023-24, 5,052 cases were selected for court-ordered arbitration. 4,829 cases completed the arbitration process. An appeal of the arbitrator's decision was filed in 482 cases or 18% of cases arbitrated.

For more information about Court-Ordered Arbitration, visit [www.nccourts.gov/programs/court-ordered-arbitration](http://www.nccourts.gov/programs/court-ordered-arbitration).

**Court-Ordered Arbitration, Caseload by District**

District	*Begin Pending (7/1/23)	Cases Ordered to Court-Ordered Arbitration		Cases Exiting from Arbitration Process						End Pending (6/30/24)
		District Court Cases Ordered to Arbitration	Total Caseload	Cases Scheduled for Hearing	Cases Exempt from Arbitration	Cases Arbitrated	Cases Dismissed Prior to Hearing	Cases Dismissed Prior to Entry of Judgment		
1*	12	5	17	5	0	1	0	0	16	
3	19	56	75	60	2	48	4	0	18	
4	9	48	57	0	0	27	4	1	7	
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
6	66	271	337	134	6	91	62	6	44	
7	14	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	14	
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
9	22	111	133	71	3	41	20	1	18	
10*	718	741	1459	615	7	455	154	53	767	
11*	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	
14	56	594	650	412	3	287	92	21	112	
15	569	440	1009	422	0	112	151	0	482	
16*	28	75	103	74	0	46	14	4	42	
17*	60	26	86	28	0	14	7	0	64	
18*	16	5	21	2	0	1	0	0	20	
20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
21	2	7	9	7	0	6	1	0	2	
22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
24*	132	237	369	196	0	180	21	16	151	
25	269	68	337	269	2	172	18	3	116	
26*	790	388	1178	270	0	251	28	18	895	
27	102	581	683	403	1	232	64	16	115	
28	7	9	16	8	0	1	0	0	15	
29	11	3	14	5	0	1	0	0	13	
30	76	237	313	147	5	78	39	6	97	
31	44	47	91	55	0	49	3	0	38	
32	32	201	233	182	0	113	1	3	56	
33	30	378	408	269	1	214	43	35	35	
34	17	61	78	32	0	12	5	1	30	
35	31	39	70	29	2	8	10	0	34	
36	32	295	327	192	5	117	45	13	51	
37	0	9	9	9	0	5	2	0	1	
38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
39	47	21	68	18	0	10	2	0	54	
40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
41	4	10	14	11	0	11	0	1	2	
42	103	63	166	37	0	10	1	0	153	
43	21	25	46	26	1	15	0	0	27	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,339</b>	<b>5,052</b>	<b>8,391</b>	<b>3,989</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>2,608</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>3,490</b>	

\*Data generated from Enterprise Justice (Odyssey)

Begin pending data are based on end pending numbers reported at the end of the Q3 report for FY23-24.

**Court-Ordered Arbitration, Trial de Novo Caseload by District**

District	*Begin Pending (7/1/23)	Appeals Filed	Trial by Judge	Trial by Jury	Dismissal / Other	End Pending (6/30/24)
1*	1	2	0	1	0	2
3	4	17	9	0	4	8
4	3	10	2	1	7	3
5	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	4	21	8	0	5	12
7	1	0	0	0	0	1
8	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	3	6	5	0	4	0
10*	63	112	4	28	56	87
11*	0	1	0	0	0	1
14	10	36	19	0	20	7
15	5	3	0	0	0	8
16*	17	12	0	1	1	27
17*	15	3	0	0	0	18
18*	2	7	0	0	0	9
20	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	1	0	1	0	0	0
22	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	0	0	0	0	0	0
24*	128	23	0	0	0	151
25	19	21	8	0	2	30
26*	459	100	0	0	4	555
27	12	32	5	0	7	32
28	3	0	0	1	2	0
29	19	0	0	0	0	19
30	18	7	9	0	4	12
31	22	15	10	0	3	24
32	16	11	0	0	0	27
33	3	15	0	0	0	18
34	7	1	0	0	0	8
35	10	3	0	0	0	13
36	6	12	9	0	5	4
37	1	0	1	0	0	0
38	0	0	0	0	0	0
39	11	2	0	0	0	13
40	0	0	0	0	0	0
41	1	4	1	0	1	3
42	20	3	1	0	0	22
43	7	3	1	0	0	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>1,123</b>

\*Data generated from Enterprise Justice (Odyssey)

Begin pending data are based on end pending numbers reported at the end of the Q3 report for FY23-24.

# CLERK MEDIATION PROGRAM



On May 23, 2005, the General Assembly enacted G.S. 7A-38.3B that established a mediation program for matters referred to mediation by clerks of superior court. Rules implementing the legislation were adopted by the Supreme Court of North Carolina, effective March 1, 2006, and the program began to operate. A clerk may refer any eligible matter to mediation, including guardianship, estate, and boundary and partition

disputes, although mediation is not required. Some matters are ineligible for referral, including adoptions and foreclosures.

The rules were codified in June 2024. For more information on the Clerk Mediation Program, including program rules, visit [www.nccourts.gov/programs/clerk-mediation-program](http://www.nccourts.gov/programs/clerk-mediation-program).

## Clerk Mediation Program, Caseload by District

County	Begin Pending (7/1/23)	Cases Ordered to Clerk Mediation Program (CMP)				Total CMP Cases	Cases Completing CMP														Cases Completing Process During FY 2023 – 24	End Pending (6/30/24)	Unsuccessful Mediation; Heard by CSC		
		Guardianship	Estate	Boundary	Other		G – Complete	G – Partial	G – Impasse	G – Settled Outside Mediation	E – Complete	E – Partial	E – Impasse	E – Settled Outside Mediation	B – Complete	B – Partial	B – Impasse	B – Settled Outside Mediation	O – Complete	O – Partial				O – Impasse	O – Settled Outside Mediation
Catawba	0	1	0	0	12	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	7	1	2	0	12	1	3
Chatham	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Forsyth	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
Moore	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Union	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Watauga	0	0	0	7	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	5	2	1
Wilkes	3	0	0	2	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>

Ninety-three (93) counties did not report any activity for the Clerk's Mediation Program.



# OFFICE OF LANGUAGE ACCESS SERVICES (OLAS)



The Office of Language Access Services (OLAS) facilitates equal access to justice in North Carolina courts for limited-English proficient (LEP) parties in interest, with a particular emphasis on the state’s sizeable Hispanic and Latino population. The program strives to meet the statewide needs of LEP speakers interacting with the judicial system by providing nine staff court interpreters (for the Spanish language) in eight districts, maintaining an accessible online Registry of Spoken Foreign Language Court Interpreters, and coordinating the assignment of spoken language interpreters for languages other than Spanish (LOTS). The program develops policy and standards for judicial officials, court personnel, and interpreters; advises courts on the proper use of interpreters; trains judicial officials and court personnel on cultural and interpreting issues; and completes the translation of court forms and vital documents.

During FY 2023-24, the program trained 58 prospective court interpreters on the three modes of court interpreting, the role of the court interpreter, and the code of ethics and professionalism required of the court interpreter. Additionally, the program facilitated access to approved skillsbuilding workshops, held in-person and online, to those who qualified to sit for the North Carolina Court Interpreter Certification Examination (NCCICE).

Seventy-four state and/or federally certified Spanish court interpreters, one state certified Haitian Creole interpreter,

one state certified Portuguese interpreter, two state certified Russian interpreters, one state certified Vietnamese interpreter, one conditionally qualified Arabic interpreter, one conditionally qualified Haitian Creole interpreter, three conditionally qualified Mandarin interpreters, two conditionally qualified Portuguese interpreters, and one conditionally qualified Russian interpreter work throughout the state. Additionally, out of state resources include eight certified Arabic interpreters, three certified Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian (BCS) interpreters, four certified Cantonese interpreters, six certified French interpreters, three certified Haitian Creole interpreters, three certified Hmong interpreters, one certified Khmer interpreter, four certified Korean interpreters, two certified Lao interpreters, four certified Mandarin interpreters, two certified Polish interpreters, six certified Portuguese interpreters, six certified Russian interpreters, one certified Somali interpreter, two certified Tagalog interpreters, one certified Turkish interpreter, and eight certified Vietnamese interpreters.

North Carolina is a member of the National Center for State Courts’ Council of Language Access Coordinators (CLAC). OLAS administers the CLAC’s oral proficiency examination for court interpreters as the NCCICE in all languages for which CLAC offers an examination.

For more information on OLAS, including policies and training information, visit [www.NCcourts.gov/LanguageAccess](http://www.NCcourts.gov/LanguageAccess).

## Foreign Language Court Interpreters, Spanish

Classification Levels	Number of Interpreters
A1 – Master Certified	27
A2 – Certified	46
B – Conditionally Qualified	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>74</b>

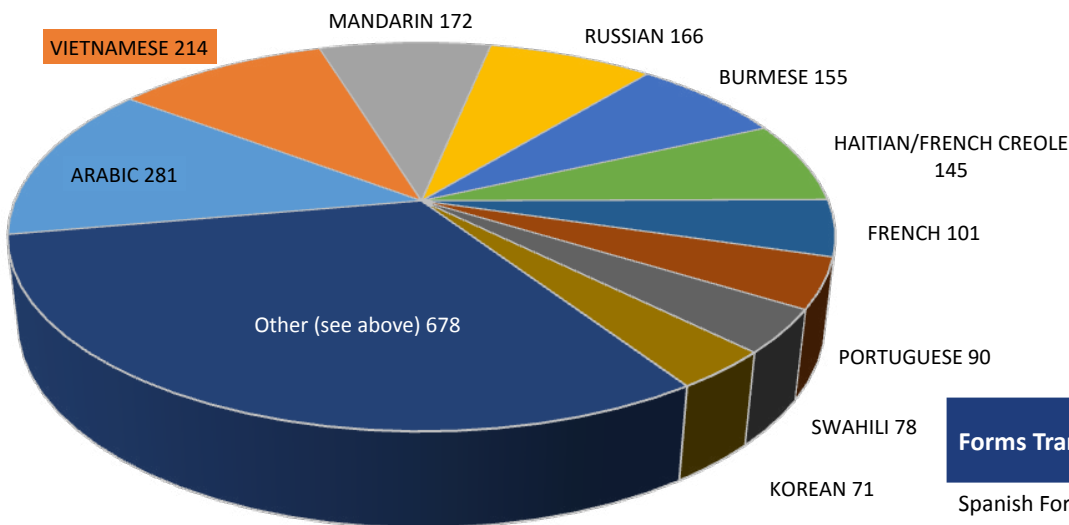
## Languages Other Than Spanish (LOTS)

Certified Court Interpreters	Number of Interpreters
Haitian Creole	1
Portuguese	1
Russian	2
Vietnamese	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>

Conditionally Qualified Court Interpreters	Number of Interpreters
Arabic	1
Haitian Creole	1
Mandarin	3
Portuguese	2
Russian	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>

### Assignments Covered for Languages Other Than Spanish

Language	Number of Events	Language	Number of Events	Language	Number of Events
NEPALI	49	AKATEKO	9	MAM	3
ROMANIAN	49	POHNPEIAN	9	Q'EQCHI'	3
FARSI	48	TAGALOG	9	QUICHE	3
UKRAINIAN	40	TELUGU	9	TSELTAL	3
KAREN	32	POLISH	8	DUTCH	2
LAO	25	ALBANIAN	7	LINGALA	2
KINYARWANDA	22	Q'ANJOB'AL	7	SOMALI	2
MARSHALLESE	21	CHATINO	6	TAMIL	2
URDU	21	BULGARIAN	5	BOSNIAN/SERBIAN/ CROATIAN	1
BENGALI	20	FALAM CHIN	5	FILIPINO	1
HMONG	18	K'ICHE'	5	HAUSA	1
JARAI (Montagnard)	18	MANDINGO	5	IGBO	1
AMHARIC	17	PASHTO	5	KRIO	1
CAMBODIAN/KHMER	16	RHADE (Montagnard)	5	MANDINKA	1
DARI	15	DINKA	4	MONGOLIAN	1
CANTONESE	14	HEBREW	4	PUNJABI	1
HINDI	14	WOLOF	4	ROHINGYA	1
TIGRINYA/KUNAMA	13	XHOSA	4	TAISHANESE	1
GUJARATI	11	FUZHONESE	3	TARASCO	1
JAPANESE	11	GERMAN	3	TIBETAN	1
HAKHA / HAKHA CHIN	10	GREEK	3	TWI	1
ITALIAN	10	HUNGARIAN	3	TZELTAL	1
THAI	10	LAHU	3	TZOTZIL	1
TURKISH	10	MALAY	3	UZBECK	1
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>678</b>



Forms Translations	Total
Spanish Forms Available	286
Vietnamese Forms Available	301

## SCHOOL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP

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In 2017, the Raise the Age law (S.L. 2017-57 §16D.4(aa)) authorized the director of the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Court to establish policies and procedures for chief district court judges and community stakeholders to create School Justice Partnerships (SJP) to help reduce the number of in-school arrests, out-of-school suspensions, and expulsions for minor offenses committed by juveniles.

A school-based referral to the juvenile justice system increases the likelihood that youth will reoffend. The SJP seeks to keep youth in school and out of court.

SJP consists of a group of community stakeholders which includes personnel from the court system, Department of Juvenile Justice, school administration, law enforcement, and other

community leaders. The goal of the SJP is to create a Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) that provides an age-appropriate graduated response to school misconduct which increases in severity as misconduct persists. The chief district court judge is the convener and equal partner of the SJP.

An SJP-Toolkit was created and updated in February 2023 to help chief district court judges and community partners develop and implement an SJP. The toolkit provides timelines, a model agreement, and other templates to assist with implementation. School Justice Partnerships have been established in 61 counties.

For more information about School Justice Partnership, visit [www.nccourts.gov/programs/school-justice-partnership](http://www.nccourts.gov/programs/school-justice-partnership).



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Administrative Office of the Courts

PO Box 2448  
Raleigh, NC 27602  
919-890-1000

[NCCOURTS.GOV](http://NCCOURTS.GOV)

