

Time to Disposition

Office of Research and Data Analysis

Question ?

What percentage of cases are being processed within the time standard?

Model Time Standards for State Trial Courts

- Time standards articulate the percentage of cases disposed of within an established timeframe.
- When used collaboratively with clearance rates and age of active pending caseload performance measures, time to disposition effectively assess the length of time it takes a court to process cases (from initial filing to disposition).
- Ideally, time to disposition assess compliance with time standards.

Methodology

- Identify cases that were disposed of or resolved by *Entry of Judgment* during the reporting period.
 - **Entry of Judgment** – A count of cases that have been resolved and filed by the court.
- Identify cases that experienced a period of inactivity, but were *Reopened* or *Reactivated* by the court, and eventually disposed of during the reporting period.
 - **Reopened** – A count of cases that were previously disposed but have been restored due to a request to modify or enforce existing judgments.
 - **Reactivated** – A count of cases that were previously placed in Inactive Pending status that can now resume and proceed to disposition.
- Cases that moved through the system without interruption should be included in the analysis.
- Cases that were inactive at the end of the reporting period should not be included in the analysis and should be placed in the courts *Inactive Pending* cases.
 - **Inactive Pending** – A count of cases that have been deemed inactive by the court at the end of the reporting period.
- Cases that are *Active Pending* at the end of the reporting period should not be included in the analysis.
 - **Active Pending** – A count of cases that are awaiting disposition at the end of the reporting period.

Which cases are included ?

Case Status	Case Characteristics	Analysis
Typical Cases	Cases without interruption that were disposed or resolved entry of judgement during the reporting period	Included in analysis
Reopened or Reactivated	Cases with period of inactivity but disposed during the reporting period	Included in analysis
Reopened	Previously disposed cases with a request to modify or enforce judgements	Included in analysis
Inactive Pending	Cases in period of inactivity at the end of the reporting period	Excluded from analysis
Active Pending	Cases that have not reached a disposition	Excluded from analysis

CourTools Resources

- To learn more about Trial Courts Performance Measures and Model Time Standards for State Trial Courts, visit <http://www.courtools.org/>.
- Time To Disposition Analysis Worksheet
http://www.courtools.org/~media/Microsites/Files/CourTools/CourTools_Trial_Measure3_Time_to_Disposition.xls.ashx.