

14th Judicial District
CourTools Measure 8: Effective Use of Jurors

Purpose: The percentage of citizens available to serve related to the integrity of source lists, the effectiveness of jury management practices, the willingness of citizens to serve, the efficacy of excuse and postponement policies, and the number of exemptions allowed. The objective of this measure is to minimize the number of unused prospective jurors—the number of citizens who are summoned, qualified, report for jury service, and who are not needed.

JUROR YIELD SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY 2017															
	Sum'd ¹	Undelivered ²		No Show ³		Disqualified ⁴		Excused ⁵		Postponed ⁶		Released by Phone ⁷		Serving (Yield) ⁸	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Jan, '17	3,547	455	13%	242	7%	100	3%	128	3%	213	6%	2,053	58%	356	10%
Feb, '17	3,233	472	15%	106	3%	89	3%	155	5%	215	7%	2,019	62%	177	5%
Mar, '17	3,468	469	13%	343	10%	91	3%	331	10%	260	7%	1,494	43%	480	14%
Apr, '17	3,001	411	14%	289	9%	62	2%	185	6%	233	8%	1,440	48%	381	13%
May, '17															
Jun, '17															
Jul, '17															
Aug, '17															
Sep, '17															
Oct, '17															
Nov, '17															
Dec, '17															
CY 2017	13,249	1,807	14%	980	7%	342	3%	799	6%	921	7%	7,006	53%	1,394	10%
CY 2016	32,015		12%		8%		3%		5%		9%		49%		14%
CY 2015	34,077		12%		7%		5%		5%		9%		44%		14%
CY 2014	35,041		11%		7%		5%		5%		9%		49%		14%
CY 2013	35,038		28%		8%		7%		8%		7%		29%		13%

¹ The number of summons sent to prospective jurors, randomly selected from the master jury list. The master list is prepared every two years, and is comprised of individuals over the age of 18 who are registered voters or licensed drivers in Durham County.

² The number of summons sent out that were returned by the post office as undeliverable, usually because the individual has moved or is no longer at this address.

³ The number of people not reporting for jury duty as instructed.

⁴ The number of people not allowed to serve by statute (e.g., no longer resident of Durham County).

⁵ The number of people excused in accordance with excuse guidelines set by statute (e.g., medical reasons).

⁶ The number of people who contacted the court and asked that their jury service be postponed.

⁷ The number of people the court assumes were available and willing to serve but who were instructed in advance by the court not to report. In Durham, summoned jurors are instructed to call the juror hotline the evening before their jury date. If the court does not need jurors, jurors are instructed not to report.

⁸ The total number of citizens who came to court and took an oath to serve as jurors.

JUROR UTILIZATION⁹
2017

	Superior Criminal		Superior Civil		District Civil		Total \$ Spent on Unused Jurors ¹⁰
	Panels Requested	Panels Used	Panels Requested	Panels Used	Panels Requested	Panels Used	
Jan, '17	8	4	0	0	1	0	\$1,800
Feb, '17	2	0	2	1	1	0	\$1,440
Mar, '17	7	5	2	2	0	0	\$720
Apr, '17	9	5	1	1	2	1	\$1,800
May, '17							
Jun, '17							
Jul, '17							
Aug, '17							
Sep, '17							
Oct, '17							
Nov, '17							
Dec, '17							
CY 2017 Cumulative	26	14	5	4	4	1	
% of Total		54%		80%		25%	
Total \$ Spent on Unused Jurors ¹¹							\$5,760
CY 2016		62%		50%		31%	\$18,720
CY 2015		58%		65%		0%	\$21,960
CY 2014		56%		48%		38%	\$19,080
CY 2013		61%		36%		40%	\$21,600

⁹ In Durham, the Court employs a “one-day, one-trial” system of jury summoning. Jurors are summoned for a day, Monday through Thursday, of every trial week. Key courtroom participants—judges, district attorneys, defense attorneys, civil attorneys—determine the need for jurors for the following day, and request panels. A simple method of examining juror utilization is to monitor those courtrooms requesting jurors for a trial date against those courtrooms bringing jurors into their courtroom to seat a jury on that trial date.

¹⁰ It takes a panel of approximately 30 jurors to seat a 12-person jury with 1 or 2 alternate jurors for a typical civil or criminal trial. Jurors are paid \$12/day for the first day of jury duty. The cost in State jury fees for a panel of jurors is \$360. The costs to citizens in missed wages, travel, child or elder care expenses, etc., and to employers and the community are considerably higher.

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	Sum'd ¹	Undelivered ²		No Show ³		Disqualified ⁴		Excused ⁵		Postponed ⁶		Released by Phone ⁷		Serving (Yield) ⁸	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Jan, '16	2,843	267	9%	202	7%	75	3%	98	4%	208	7%	1,629	57%	364	13%
Feb, '16	3,668	468	13%	204	5%	123	3%	214	6%	262	7%	2,010	55%	387	11%
Mar, '16	3,782	478	13%	314	8%	86	2%	185	5%	352	9%	1,661	44%	706	19%
Apr, '16	2,892	372	13%	272	9%	105	4%	147	5%	290	10%	1,216	42%	490	17%
May, '16	3,092	418	13%	266	8%	86	3%	120	4%	275	9%	1,533	50%	394	13%
Jun, '16	2,094	243	12%	176	8%	56	3%	104	5%	219	10%	945	45%	351	17%
Jul, '16	2,528	285	11%	253	10%	78	3%	100	4%	299	12%	1,038	41%	475	19%
Aug, '16	3,417	428	12%	267	8%	101	3%	155	5%	331	10%	1,746	51%	389	11%
Sep, '16	2,628	308	12%	183	7%	82	3%	136	5%	216	9%	1,318	50%	385	14%
Oct, '16	2,030	260	13%	188	9%	70	3%	108	5%	161	8%	883	44%	360	18%
Nov, '16	2,057	246	12%	135	7%	86	4%	104	5%	179	9%	1,054	51%	253	12%
Dec, '16	984	63	6%	75	8%	24	2%	33	3%	77	8%	618	63%	94	10%
CY 2016	32,015	3,836	12%	2,535	8%	972	3%	1,504	5%	2,869	9%	15,651	49%	4,648	14%
CY 2015	34,077		12%		7%		5%		5%		9%		44%		14%
CY 2014	35,041		11%		7%		5%		5%		9%		49%		14%
CY 2013	35,038		28%		8%		7%		8%		7%		29%		13%

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2016

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	Panels Requested	Panels Used	Panels Requested	Panels Used	Panels Requested	Panels Used	
Jan, '16	5	2	2	0	1	1	\$1,800
Feb, '16	5	4	3	3	1	0	\$720
Mar, '16	9	4	3	1	2	0	\$3,240
Apr, '16	12	6	1	0	1	0	\$2,880
May, '16	8	4	2	1	1	1	\$1,800
Jun, '16	6	5	2	1	2	1	\$1,080
Jul, '16	10	9	2	2	1	0	\$720
Aug, '16	5	2	2	0	1	0	\$2,160
Sep, '16	8	5	1	1	1	1	\$1,080
Oct, '16	6	3	2	1	2	0	\$2,160
Nov, '16	4	2	2	1	0	0	\$1,080
Dec, '16	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
CY 2016 Cumulative	80	48	22	11	13	4	
% of Total		62%		50%		31%	
Total \$ Spent on Unused Jurors ¹¹		\$11,520		\$3,960		\$3,240	\$18,720
CY 2015		58%		65%		0%	\$21,960
CY 2014		56%		48%		38%	\$19,080
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