

*ANTRIM COUNTY PROBATE COURT
&
ANTRIM COUNTY FAMILY DIVISION
2014 ANNUAL REPORT*

To The:
ANTRIM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
April 9, 2015

Dear Chairperson Crawford,

Thank you for this opportunity to present to you, and the other members of the Antrim County Board of Commissioners, the 2014 Annual Report for the Antrim County Probate Court and the Antrim County Family Division.

Sincerely,

Norman R. Hayes

Antrim County Probate Judge

Filings & Actions, 2014

Antrim County Probate Court

Estates – Existing 115, New 94

Guardianships – Existing 248, New 82

Conservatorships – Existing 54, New 21

Mentally Ill Petitions – 20

Antrim County Family Division

Delinquency Cases – 66

Neglect/Abuse Cases – 14 (33 children)

Adoption Cases – 16

Name Changes - 7

Personal Protection Orders – 89

Paternity/Support/Divorces – Existing 59, New 155

**Antrim County Family Division
General Operating Budget
2014**

	Salaries	Services	Attorney/Juror/Witness	Benefits	Supplies	Total
Budgeted	\$221,767	\$22,500	\$152,452	\$107,999	\$15,000	\$519,718
Actual	\$222,088	\$14,350	\$96,871	\$114,018	\$8,800	\$456,127
Actual @ % of Budgeted	100%	64%	64%	106%	59%	88%

**Antrim County Probate Court
General Operating Budget
2014**

	Salaries	Services	Attorney/Juror/Witness	Benefits	Supplies	Total
Budgeted	\$180,929	\$28,450	\$32,000	\$53,212	\$8,650	\$303,241
Actual	\$180,720	\$19,005	\$18,660	\$53,524	\$5,956	\$277,865
Actual @ % of Budgeted	100%	67%	58%	100%	69%	92%

Gross CCF Cost 2014

Month	Foster Care	Institutional Care	Therapy	Indep. Living	NonReimb.	SubTotal	YTD Total	Basic Grant	YTD%Budget
October	\$5,016.78	\$0.00	\$1,890	\$382.86	\$236.98	\$7,526.62	\$7,526.62	\$2,260	2%
November	\$7,283.84	\$1,805	\$360	\$595.56	\$728.22	\$10,772.62	\$18,299.24	\$3,060	5%
December	\$7,567.70	\$1,330	\$1,760	\$595.56	\$390.43	\$11,643.69	\$29,942.93	\$1,170	8%
January	\$4,821.73	\$3,625	\$360	\$595.56	\$0.00	\$9,402.29	\$39,345.22	\$2,700	10%
February	\$3,788.83	\$3,255	\$180	\$595.56	\$204.80	\$8,024.19	\$47,369.41	\$2,930	12%
March	\$7,024.15	\$24,322.60	\$2,107.86	\$297.78	\$1,000.50	\$34,752.89	\$82,122.30	\$2,880	22%
April	\$5,181.41	\$1,260	\$3,390	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,831.41	\$91,953.71	\$0.00	24%
May	\$6,765.63	\$0.00	\$3,450	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,215.63	\$102,169.34	\$0.00	27%
June	\$5,074.88	\$0.00	\$2,870	\$0.00	\$153	\$8,097.88	\$110,267.22	\$0.00	29%
July	\$4,773.60	\$2,520	\$2,570	\$0.00	\$97	\$9,960.60	\$120,227.82	\$0.00	32%
August	\$4,693.60	\$5,040	\$2,730	\$0.00	\$235.50	\$12,699.10	\$132,926.92	\$0.00	35%
September	\$10,461.99	\$10,800	\$8,710	\$0.00	\$208	\$30,179.99	\$163,106.91	\$0.00	43%
Year	\$72,454	\$53,958	\$30,378	\$3,063	\$3,254	\$163,107		\$15,000	38%
Budgeted	\$130,000	\$204,000	\$41,000	\$5,000		\$380,000		\$15,000	100%

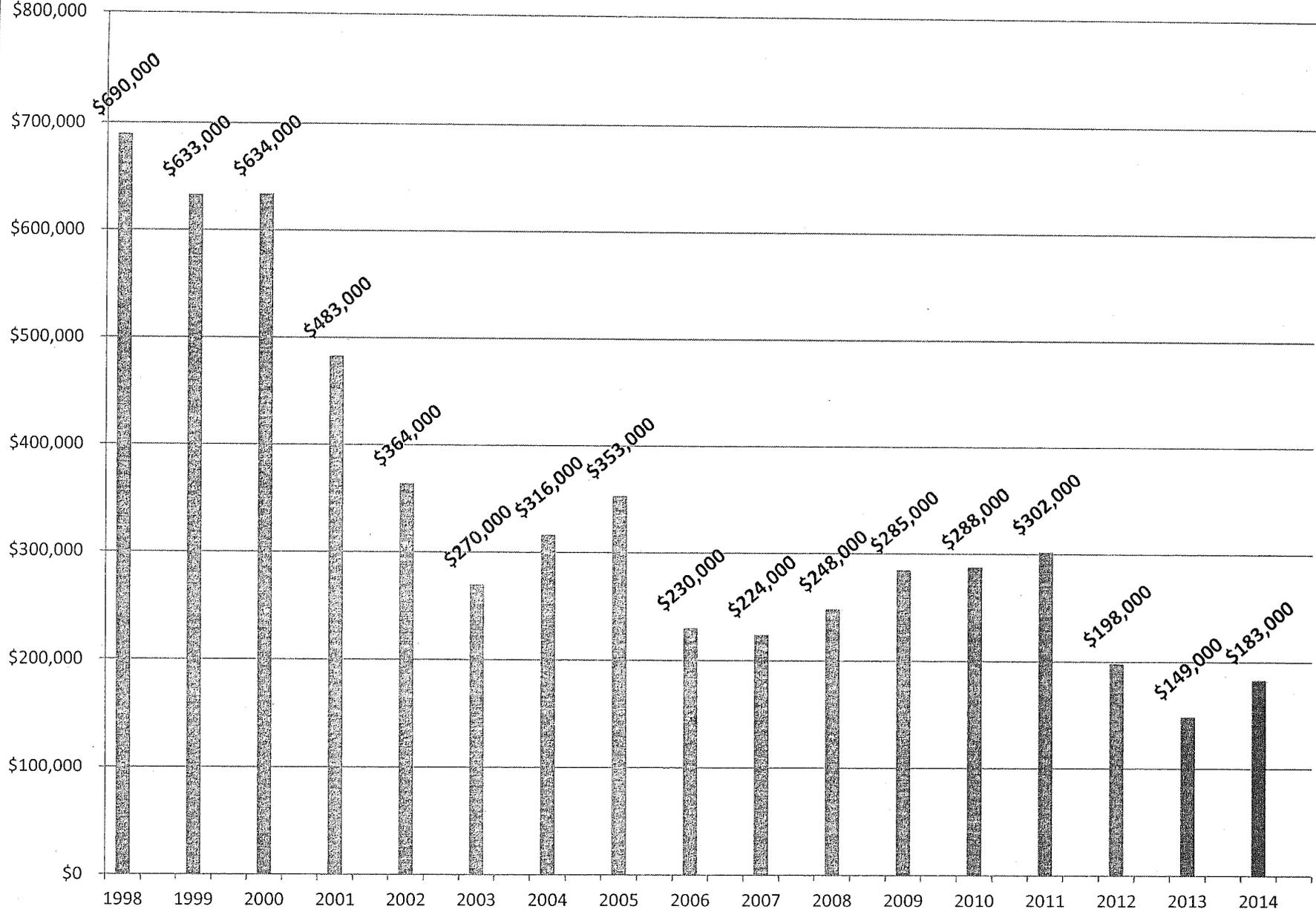
Gross CCF Comparision
(State DMB Numbers)

	Charlevoix	Leelanau	Manistee	Otsego	Roscommon	Mean	Antrim	%+/-Mean
Population	25,949	21,708	24,733	24,164	24,449	24,201	23,580	-3%
CCF 2010	\$911,451	\$324,487	\$276,535	\$417,165	\$479,669	\$482,000	\$526,107	9%
CCF 2011	\$957,444	\$347,261	\$285,208	\$337,587	\$797,828	\$545,000	\$517,751	-5%
CCF 2012	\$864,037	\$382,867	\$383,320	\$437,133	\$774,566	\$568,000	\$353,441	-38%
CCF 2013	\$610,188	\$480,839	\$310,947	\$424,609	\$766,860	\$519,000	\$214,743	-59%
CCF 2014	\$582,372	\$492,445	\$291,506	\$479,770	\$861,056	\$541,000	\$226,727	-42%
5yr avg.	\$785,000	\$406,000	\$310,000	\$419,000	\$736,000	\$531,000	\$368,000	-31%

Net CCF Costs 2014

Month	Child Care Fund	Reimbursement	Net Child Care	State Ward Costs	Family Support	SubTotal	YTD Total	YTD@%ofBudget
October	\$7,526.62	\$2,206.62	\$5,320	\$2,380.68	\$1,639.86	\$9,340.54	\$9,340.54	3%
November	\$10,722.62	\$3,655.31	\$7,067.31	\$682.78	\$1,974.72	\$9,724.81	\$19,065.35	6%
December	\$11,643.69	\$4,372.27	\$7,271.42	\$1,615.23	\$1,883.15	\$10,769.80	\$29,835.15	10%
January	\$9,402.29	\$3,176.25	\$6,226.04	\$2,662.96	\$1,510.72	\$10,399.72	\$40,234.87	13%
February	\$8,024.19	(\$1,526.67)	\$9,550.86	\$285.22	\$2,895.73	\$12,731.81	\$52,966.68	17%
March	\$34,752.89	(\$609.46)	\$35,362.35	\$1,503.09	\$7,162.96	\$44,028.40	\$96,995.08	32%
April	\$9,831.41	\$1,919.41	\$7,912	(\$8,017.52)	\$4,656.01	\$4,550.49	\$101,545.57	33%
May	\$10,215.63	\$558.21	\$9,657.42	\$0.00	\$1,954.74	\$11,612.16	\$113,157.73	37%
June	\$8,097.88	\$2,227.15	\$5,870.73	\$13,005.61	\$4,464.85	\$23,341.19	\$136,498.92	45%
July	\$9,960.60	\$1,884.76	\$8,075.84	(\$1,827)	\$2,059.52	\$8,308.36	\$144,807.28	48%
August	\$12,699.10	\$2,485.95	\$10,213.15	\$1,226.70	\$0.00	\$11,439.85	\$156,247.13	51%
September	\$30,179.99	\$11,008.29	\$19,171.70	\$3,554.73	\$4,054.70	\$26,781.13	\$183,028.26	60%
Year	\$163,057	\$31,358	\$131,699	\$17,072	\$34,257	\$183,028		60%
Budgeted	\$322,000	\$64,000	\$258,000	\$7,000	\$39,000	\$304,000		100%
Percent	100%	19%	81%					

Net CCF History



Collections 2014

Month	Reimbursement	YTD	YTD@% of Expenditures
October	\$3,622.11	\$3,622.11	39%
November	\$3,428.68	\$7,050.79	37%
December	\$3,126.55	\$10,177.34	34%
January	\$3,784.21	\$13,961.55	35%
February	\$12,421.31	\$26,382.86	50%
March	\$36,786.62	\$63,169.48	65%
April	\$6,590.67	\$69,760.15	69%
May	\$9,868.05	\$79,628.20	70%
June	\$4,351.73	\$83,979.93	61%
July	\$6,934.64	\$90,914.57	63%
August	\$8,005.59	\$98,920.16	63%
September	\$10,163.44	\$109,083.60	60%
Year		\$109,084	60%

ATTACHMENTS:

- Detroit Free Press (02/02/2015)
 - Memorandum MDOC
- 2014 Public Satisfaction Survey

How Michigan's justice system is working to save your tax dollars

By Robert P. Young Jr.
and Bridget McCormack

The nonpartisan branch of government is getting its job done, by implementing commonsense reforms and measuring performance, by implementing new technology and working smarter, and by re-engineering courts and increasing efficiency — all to serve the public better and at less cost.

Measuring and reporting on performance is something businesses have been doing for years, but this approach to improving services is a new thought in government. Michigan's judiciary is leading the way: We have established performance standards for every court and measuring and reporting on that performance on the state Supreme Court's website.

We are also asking court users how we are doing. Last year, of 21,000 court users surveyed statewide, 94% said they were treated with courtesy and respect, 85% said they were able to do their business in a reasonable amount of time, and 81% thought their case was handled fairly. Just as important, every court has a dashboard and publishes performance measures online showing how well the court is doing in resolving cases on time. Statewide, this measure shows that 96% of cases are resolved within Supreme Court time guidelines.

Keeping people out of jail and engaged in their work and families is a win-win for everyone, including taxpayers. That's why Michigan is leading the nation with 20 veterans treatment courts that are helping men and

women who served our country get the treatment they need and avoid costly incarceration. Vet by vet, these courts are saving lives and strengthening families and communities. Along with courts that focus on mental health, sobriety and drug use, 174 of these "problem-solving" courts are reaching 97% of Michigan's population. The results are impressive: Participants in drug courts are two times less likely to become re-offenders, while participants in mental health and sobriety courts are three times less likely to re-offend.



Robert P.
Young Jr.



Bridget
McCormack

Michigan courts are expanding the use of technology to increase access and efficiency. Wouldn't it be great if you didn't have to take time off from work to deal with a traffic ticket? Already available in two counties, and expanding to more courts statewide in 2015, the Online Court Project developed by University of Michigan researchers allows citizens who have received minor traffic infractions to seek reduced "no points" charges online.

In addition, videoconferencing equipment has been installed in every courtroom in 77 counties. These 351 "virtual courtrooms" allow for video arraignments from jail or testimony from prison, helping jurisdictions at all levels be more efficient. As a result, instead of physically transporting inmates, the Michigan Department of Corrections conducted 4,058 "video" transports over the past year, saving taxpayers more than \$2.6 million, not to mention reducing the risks associated with transporting dangerous criminals. Eventually, these virtual courts will help reduce costs in civil

cases by permitting your lawyer to conduct routine court business in their offices without having to travel to court.

At the same time, in just the past two years, more than 630,000 users have accessed MichiganLegalHelp.org, a site that helps residents address their legal problems without having to hire an attorney. This website is recognized as one of the top three such sites in the nation and helps 14,000 visitors each week.

Sharing resources and avoiding unnecessary and costly duplication is just common sense, and our goal is to make sure the judiciary costs the taxpayers no more than is necessary. To this end, three out four counties statewide have plans to streamline their courts by sharing resources, balancing judicial workloads and increasing collaboration across departments. Our goal is to have every court involved in such plans.

We are also reducing the number of judges to fit the state's judicial caseload. Over the past three years, Michigan taxpayers have already saved \$4.4 million by the elimination of judgeships. When we're done cutting, 40 judicial seats will have been eliminated, saving taxpayers \$6.4 million annually.

Michigan's judiciary is a complicated enterprise, including nearly 600 judges, 244 courts, 165 local funding units, 83 county clerks and 20 case management systems. This complexity makes reform difficult, but the Michigan Supreme Court is committed to driving change so that our courts set a national standard for efficiency and service to the public.

Robert P. Young, Jr. is chief justice and Bridget McCormack is a justice on the Michigan Supreme Court.

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

“Help Make Things Right”

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 16, 2015

TO: All Judges, Court Administrators, and Attorneys

FROM: Rachel Johnson, Manager MDOC Court and Writ Unit

SUBJECT: Court Proceedings via Electronic Conferencing

Happy New Year! It has been almost two years since I've written to express our sincere appreciation for all your efforts to assist the MDOC in reducing Transportation costs. We continue to work with the State Court Administrator's Office to increase the use of video and telephone conference technology to conduct legal communications between prisoners, the Courts, attorneys and other outside agencies. Our overall objectives remain to increase public safety and to reduce MDOC transportation costs. Public safety is most vulnerable when prisoners are outside of MDOC secure facilities, whether on the road or in a court room, so every telephone and video proceeding minimizes these risks.

We have succeeded enormously in our endeavor to reduce costs and wanted to give you another update and again extend our appreciation to all of you who have assisted us in realizing these savings. Our newest request is to expand video conferencing options to include attorney/prisoner meetings in conjunction with a scheduled court hearing. We have proposed to MDOC Leadership that they consider allowing Pre-Trial conferencing, PSI review and meetings to discuss a plea agreement if the offer will negate the need for trial. We will send out updated information if these video conferencing options are approved.

Attached you will find a compilation of data beginning in 2010 and continuing through 2014. MDOC cost savings are calculated based upon the minimum \$650.00 round trip factor, but due to distance and the number of staff needed, it is not uncommon for prisoner transport costs to exceed \$1,200 per proceeding. Transportation cost savings over all five years exceed \$15 million dollars! That is a huge accomplishment and we owe this success to your willingness and cooperation in using electronic alternatives.

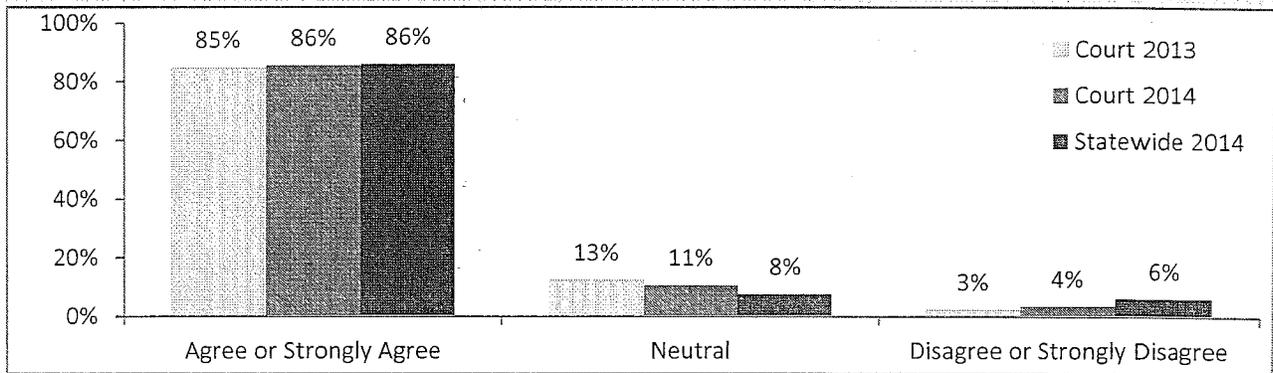
The Court and Writ staff hope you have appreciated our services as much as we have appreciated being able to provide them to you. We enjoy the relationships we have built with each court and agency and we look forward to another successful year with even more opportunities for electronic conferencing.

Antrim County Probate Court and Family Division

Questions 1 and 2 were directed to all respondents.

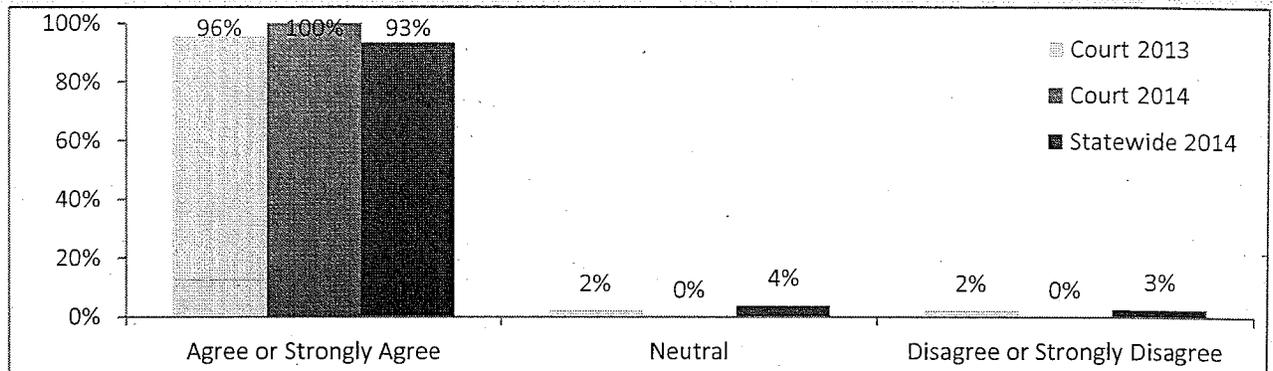
1) I was able to get my court business done in a reasonable amount of time today.

	Court 2013		Court 2014		County Courts Statewide 2014	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
5 Strongly Agree	24	60%	17	61%	10,542	58%
4 Agree	10	25%	7	25%	5,044	28%
3 Neutral	5	13%	3	11%	1,394	8%
2 Disagree	1	3%	1	4%	563	3%
1 Strongly Disagree	0	0%	0	0%	550	3%
Total Responses	40		28		18,093	
Score		4.4		4.4		4.4
NA - Not Applicable	6		0		496	
No Response	4		3		317	



2) I was treated with courtesy and respect by court staff.

	Court 2013		Court 2014		County Courts Statewide 2014	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
5 Strongly Agree	37	80%	21	70%	12,932	71%
4 Agree	7	15%	9	30%	4,133	23%
3 Neutral	1	2%	0	0%	719	4%
2 Disagree	1	2%	0	0%	244	1%
1 Strongly Disagree	0	0%	0	0%	238	1%
Total Responses	46		30		18,266	
Score		4.7		4.7		4.6
NA - Not Applicable	2		0		185	
No Response	2		1		455	

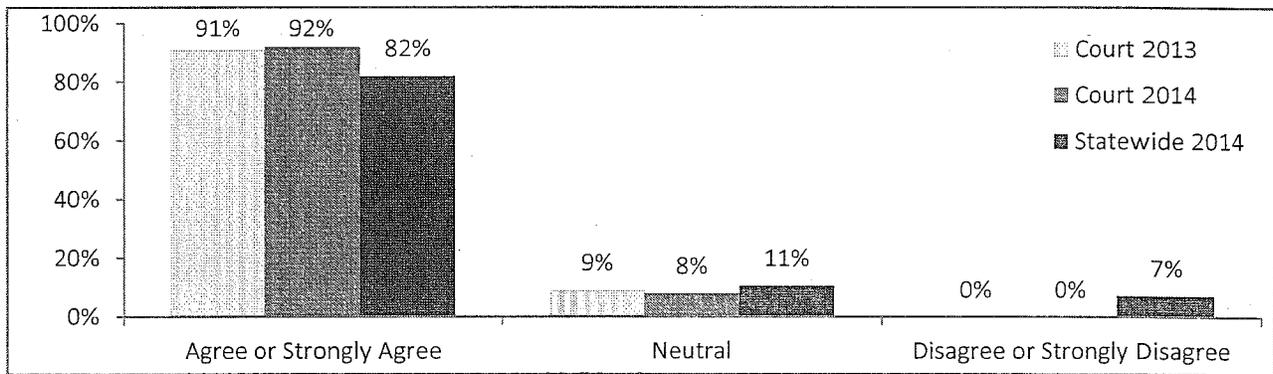


Antrim County Probate Court and Family Division

Questions 3 and 4 were directed to persons who attended a hearing or trial.

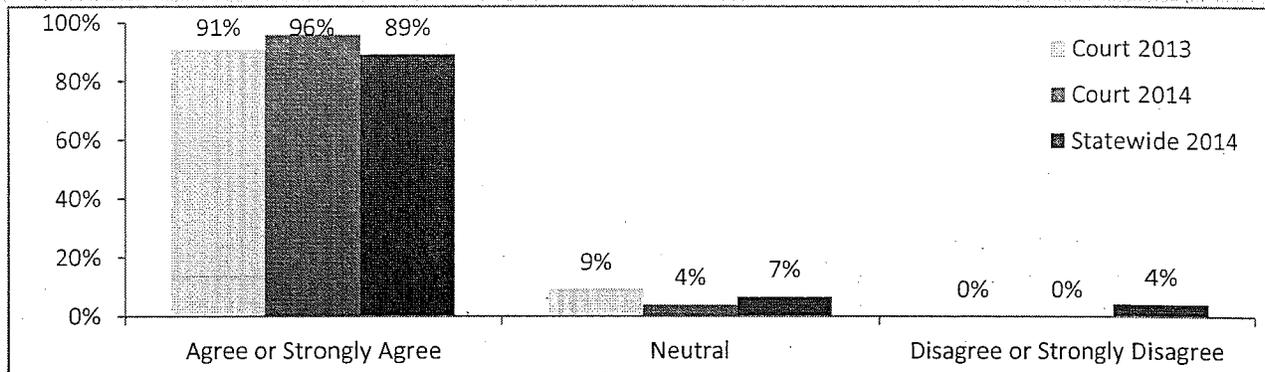
3) The way the case was handled was fair.

	Court 2013		Court 2014		County Courts Statewide 2014	
5 Strongly Agree	23	70%	16	64%	6,476	56%
4 Agree	7	21%	7	28%	3,072	26%
3 Neutral	3	9%	2	8%	1,229	11%
2 Disagree	0	0%	0	0%	387	3%
1 Strongly Disagree	0	0%	0	0%	456	4%
Total Responses	33		25		11,620	
Score		4.6		4.6		4.3
NA - Not Applicable	6		2		2,776	
No Response	11		4		4,510	



4) The judge/magistrate/referee treated everyone with courtesy and respect.

	Court 2013		Court 2014		County Courts Statewide 2014	
5 Strongly Agree	24	73%	18	72%	7,452	65%
4 Agree	6	18%	6	24%	2,758	24%
3 Neutral	3	9%	1	4%	762	7%
2 Disagree	0	0%	0	0%	194	2%
1 Strongly Disagree	0	0%	0	0%	286	2%
Total Responses	33		25		11,452	
Score		4.6		4.7		4.5
NA - Not Applicable	6		2		2,751	
No Response	11		4		4,703	

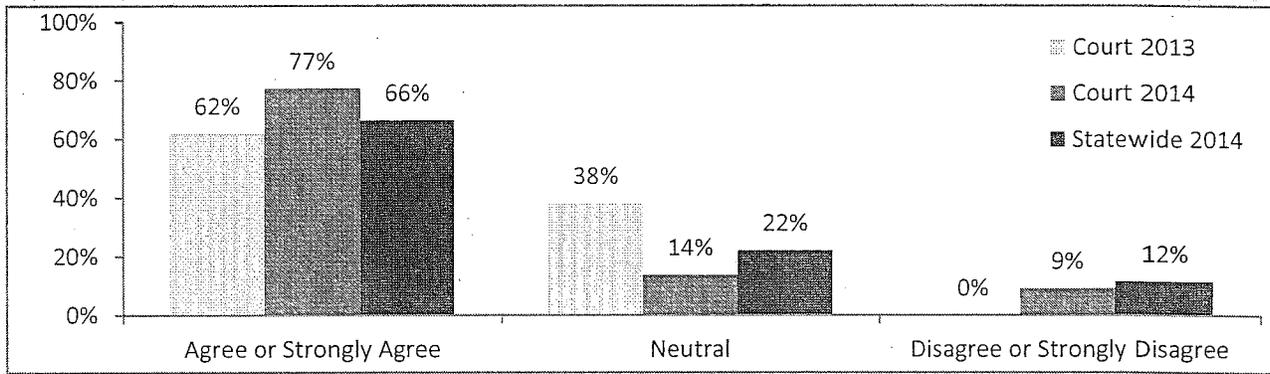


Antrim County Probate Court and Family Division

Questions 5 and 6 were directed to persons who were a party to the case.

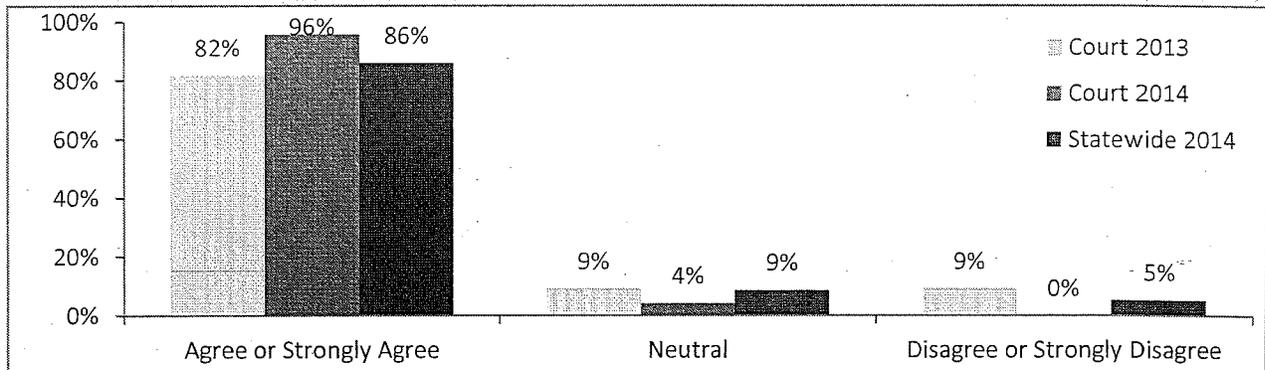
5) The outcome in my case was favorable to me.

	Court 2013		Court 2014		County Courts Statewide 2014	
5 Strongly Agree	11	52%	11	50%	4,056	44%
4 Agree	2	10%	6	27%	2,001	22%
3 Neutral	8	38%	3	14%	2,013	22%
2 Disagree	0	0%	2	9%	485	5%
1 Strongly Disagree	0	0%	0	0%	568	6%
Total Responses	21		22		9,123	
Score		4.1		4.2		3.9
NA - Not Applicable	10		7		3,741	
No Response	19		2		6,042	



6) As I leave the court, I understand what happened in my case.

	Court 2013		Court 2014		County Courts Statewide 2014	
5 Strongly Agree	15	68%	14	58%	5,653	58%
4 Agree	3	14%	9	38%	2,660	28%
3 Neutral	2	9%	1	4%	839	9%
2 Disagree	2	9%	0	0%	207	2%
1 Strongly Disagree	0	0%	0	0%	307	3%
Total Responses	22		24		9,666	
Score		4.4		4.5		4.4
NA - Not Applicable	9		4		3,197	
No Response	19		3		6,043	



Antrim County Probate Court and Family Division

Questions 7-9 were directed to all respondents.

7) What type of case brought you to the courthouse today? (Select all that apply.)

	Court 2014		County Courts Statewide 2014	
Child protective	4	13%	1,256	7%
Civil matter	2	6%	2,063	11%
Criminal/probation	0	0%	3,852	21%
Divorce/custody/support	18	58%	2,575	14%
Drug/sobriety court	0	0%	823	5%
Estate/trust	1	3%	601	3%
File papers	1	3%	879	5%
Get information	0	0%	714	4%
Guardianship/conservatorship	8	26%	1,200	7%
Juvenile delinquency	0	0%	592	3%
Make a payment	0	0%	830	5%
PPO	0	0%	358	2%
Small claims	0	0%	352	2%
Traffic/Ticket	0	0%	1,658	9%
Other	3	10%	2,454	13%
Number of Respondents	31		18,198	
No Response	0		708	

8) Who are you? (Select all that apply.)

	Court 2014		County Courts Statewide 2014	
Party (Plaintiff/Defendant)	24	77%	8,416	47%
Agency Worker	1	3%	944	5%
Attorney/prosecutor	5	16%	2,875	16%
Family/friend of party to case	1	3%	2,880	16%
Juror	0	0%	531	3%
Witness	0	0%	340	2%
Other	1	3%	2,406	13%
Number of Respondents	31		17,914	
No Response	1		992	

Antrim County Probate Court and Family Division

9) How do you identify yourself? (Select all that apply.)

	Court 2014		County Courts Statewide 2014	
Male	12	39%	9,116	49%
Female	16	52%	8,643	47%
American Indian / Alaska Nat.	0	0%	409	2%
Asian	0	0%	123	1%
Multiracial/biracial	0	0%	224	1%
Black/African American	0	0%	1,556	8%
Hispanic/Latino	0	0%	548	3%
White/Caucasian	24	77%	9,568	52%
Other	1	3%	288	2%
Number of Respondents	31		18,501	
No Response	1		405	