



# ANNUAL JUDICIARY REPORT 2024/25



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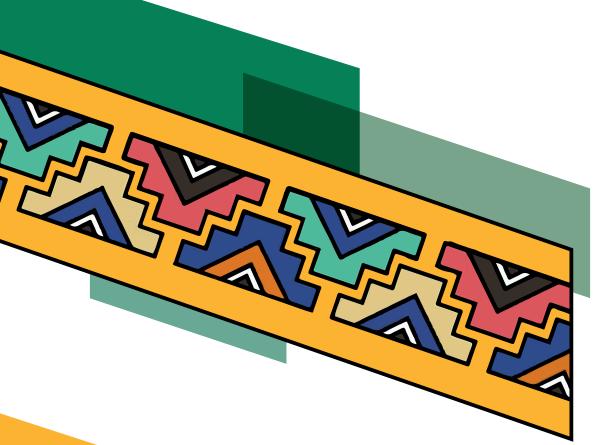
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### **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

AJPP	Annual Judiciary Performance Plan
CAC	Competition Appeal Court
СС	Constitutional Court
CCMA	Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration
CFM	Case Flow Management
CPA	Criminal Procedure Act, 1977
CRM	Customer Relation Management
DEEC	District Efficiency Enhancement Committee
DJP	Deputy Judge President
DoJ&CD	Department of Justice and Constitutional Development
DPP	Director of Public Prosecutions
EC	Electoral Court
ESTA	Extension of Security of Tenure Act, 1997
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
JAC	Judicial Accountability Committee

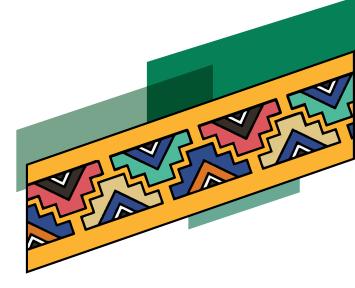
JAIT	Judicial and Administrative Information Technology Steering Committee
JCC	Judicial Conduct Committee
JP	Judge President
JSC	Judicial Service Commission
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LAC	Labour Appeal Court
LC	Labour Court
NEEC	National Efficiency Enhancement Committee
OCI	Office of the Chief Justice
PEEC	Provincial Efficiency Enhancement Committee
REEC	Regional Efficiency Enhancement Committee
SAJEI	South African Judicial Education Institute
SAPS	South African Police Service
SCA	Supreme Court of Appeal
TID	Technical Indicator Description





## **PARTA**





### FOREWORD BY THE

### **CHIEF JUSTICE**

The 2024/2025 Financial Year marks a historic milestone in the South African Judiciary, as it is the first year in which the Judiciary is led by a woman Chief Justice. This development represents a significant step forward in the transformation of the Judiciary. The 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 Annual Judiciary Reports collectively reflect a watershed period in the history of the Judiciary in the democratic era, highlighting both the constitutional mandate pursued by the new Chief Justice and the successes recorded in the exercise of judicial authority.

Additionally, all Superior Courts collectively achieved 71% compliance with the delivery of reserved judgments within three months, against a set target of 70%.

However, not all targets were met. Areas of underperformance included:

- Supreme Court of Appeal cases (72%)
- Labour Appeal Court matters (71%)
- Labour Court cases (55%)

- Criminal cases (73%)
- Reduction of criminal case backlogs (43%)

In the Regional Courts, a combined total of 65,461 criminal Court days and 204,326:57 Court hours were recorded, averaging 03:07 hours per day. During this period, 41,512 new cases were registered, while 40,072 criminal trials were finalised, translating to a clearance rate of 97%. This demonstrates that the Regional Courts are largely just managing with the inflow of cases as the ideally the clearance rate must be 100% or above.

Compared to the previous year, Court days decreased by 3%, disposed cases decreased by 2%, and Court hours also declined by 2%. Persistent challenges affecting Court operations include the unavailability of Courtrooms, defective recording equipment and intermediary systems, load shedding, natural disasters, and adverse weather conditions.

On the civil side, the Regional Courts utilised 12,926 Court days and 26,907:45 hours, averaging 02:04 hours daily. They achieved 56% finalisation of civil applications and 60% finalisation of civil trials. It is commendable that, during the review period, no reserved judgments exceeded three months from the date of the last hearing.

The District Courts performed strongly, finalising 94% of criminal cases. Progress was also noted in specialised areas:

- Child justice preliminary investigations were finalised at a rate of 84% in selected Courts where monitoring systems have been implemented.
- Maintenance matters finalised within 90 days from the date of proper service reached 89% in selected District Courts.

The Judiciary continues to hold the firm view that the establishment of a single Judiciary, coupled with full institutional independence—including a Judiciary-led Court administration model, financial autonomy, and operational independence—is essential to realising the vision of section 165 of the Constitution. Judicial independence remains a cornerstone of constitutional democracy and is indispensable for the proper discharge of judicial functions in a state founded on the rule of law.

Independence and innovation are not isolated ideals but mutually reinforcing. By safeguarding independence, our Courts remain trusted guardians of rights; by embracing innovation, we improve how we serve the public. People rely on the Courts for fairness and certainty. If independence is compromised, so too is the protection of their rights. If we lag in innovation, their access to timely justice suffers. The Court Online system, which is a Judiciary-led project was successfully rolled out to seven (7) Superior Courts during the period under review.

It is my honour to present the 9th Annual Judiciary Report to the people of the Republic of South Africa, accounting for the performance of the Judiciary in fulfilling its constitutional mandate.

Malia Maya

Chief Justice Mandisa M L Maya

Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa

### THE SOUTH AFRICAN JUDICIARY

- Section 165(1) of the Constitution provides that the judicial authority of the Republic is vested in the Courts.
- Section 165(2) provides that the Courts are independent and subject only to the Constitution and the law, which they must apply impartially and without fear, favour or prejudice.
- In terms of section 165(3) no person or organ of state may interfere with the functioning of the Courts. Section 165(4) provides that organs of state, through legislative and other measures, must assist and protect the Courts to ensure the independence, impartiality, dignity, accessibility and effectiveness of the Courts.
- Section 165(5) provides that an order or decision issued by a Court binds all persons to whom and organs of state to which it applies.

- Section 165(6) proclaims that the Chief Justice is the Head of the Judiciary and exercises responsibility over the establishment and monitoring of norms and standards for the exercise of the judicial functions of all Courts.
- Section 166 of the Constitution lists the Courts as follows:
  - a. The Constitutional Court:
  - b. The Supreme Court of Appeal;
  - c. The High Court of South Africa and any high Court of appeal that may be established by an Act of Parliament to hear appeals from any Court of a status similar to the High Court of South Africa;
  - d. The Magistrates' Courts; and
  - e. any other Court established or recognised in terms of an Act of Parliament, including any Court of a status similar to either the High Court or the Magistrates' Courts.

Table 1: The Courts of South Africa

COURT	JURISDICTION
CONSTITUTIONAL COURT	This Court is the highest Court in South Africa. It was established by the interim Constitution of 1993 and continues to exist under the final Constitution.
	In terms of section 167(4) of the Constitution only the Constitutional Court may:
	a. decide disputes between organs of state in the national or provincial sphere concerning the constitutional status, powers or functions of any of those organs of state;
	b. decide on the constitutionality of any parliamentary or provincial Bill, but may do so only in the circumstances anticipated in section 79 or 121;
	c. decide applications envisaged in section 80 or 122;
	d. decide on the constitutionality of any amendment to the Constitution;
	e. decide that Parliament or the President has failed to fulfil a constitutional obligation; or
	f. certify a provincial constitution in terms of section 144.
	The Constitution requires that a matter in the Constitutional Court be heard by at least eight Judges. In practice all 11 Justices sit in every case set down unless there is a good reason for one or more of the Justices not to be part of the panel hearing a particular case.

COURT	JURISDICTION
SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL (SCA)	In terms of the Constitution, the Supreme Court of Appeal may decide any matter, except certain labour and competition matters. It may decide only appeals and issues connected with appeals.
	The Supreme Court of Appeal may make any order concerning the constitutional validity of an Act of Parliament, a provincial Act or any conduct of the President, but an order of constitutional invalidity it makes has no force unless it is confirmed by the Constitutional Court.
	Generally, the Supreme Court of Appeal sits in panels of three or five, but two Judges deal with applications for leave to appeal.
HIGH COURT OF	In terms of section 166(c) of the Constitution, there is one High Court of South Africa.
SOUTH AFRICA	In terms of the Superior Courts Act, 2013 there are nine provincial Divisions of the High Court of South Africa. They are:
	a. The Eastern Cape Division, with its main seat in Makhanda and three Local Divisions located in Gqeberha, Mthatha and Bhisho;
	b. The Free State Division with its main seat in Bloemfontein;
	c. The Gauteng Division with its main seat in Pretoria and the Local Division in Johannesburg.
	d. The KwaZulu-Natal Division with its main seat in Pietermaritzburg and its Local Division in Durban;
	e. The Limpopo Division with its main seat in Polokwane with its local Division in Thohoyandou;
	f. The Mpumalanga Division with its main seat in Mbombela, with its local Division in Middelburg;
	g. The Northern Cape Division with its main seat in Kimberley;
	h. The North West Division with its main seat in Mahikeng; and
	i. The Western Cape Division with its main seat in Cape Town.
	The High Court has jurisdiction to adjudicate any matter that has not been assigned to another Court either by the Constitution or an Act of Parliament.

### Courts of a status similar to that of the High Court are the following specialised Courts:

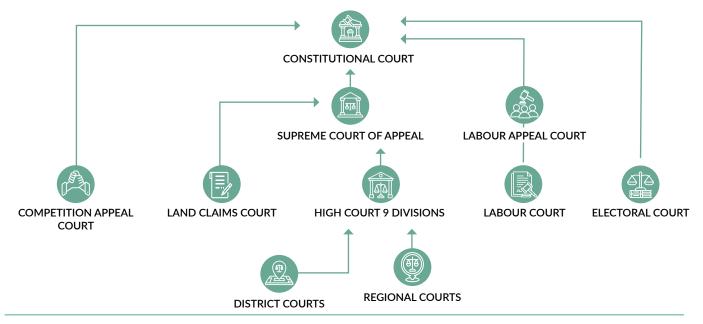
COURT	JURISDICTION
ELECTORAL COURT	The Electoral Court is a specialist Court established in terms of section 18 of the Electoral Commission Act, 1996 (Act No.51 of 1996) to adjudicate matters relating to electoral law. It has the same status as the High Court. The Electoral Court is headed by a Chairperson who is required to be a Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeal. Its members include Judges and non-Judges.
	The Electoral Court may review any decisions of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) relating to an electoral matter, and such a review must be administered and disposed of as quickly as possible. Additionally, the Court hears and rules on appeals against decisions of the IEC, as determined by the Chairperson. The Court makes rules, with regards to electoral disputes, complaints and breaches arising from the Electoral Code of Conduct.

COURT	JURISDICTION
LABOUR APPEAL COURT	The Labour Appeal Court is a specialist Court of appeal which hears all appeals from judgments of the Labour Court. The Labour Appeal Court and the Labour Court share the same Judge President and Deputy Judge President. Other than for the fact that the two Courts share the same Judge President and Deputy Judge President, they have separate Judges. In terms of section 167 of the Labour Relations Act, 1995 the Labour Appeal Court has the same status as the Supreme Court of Appeal. Appeals from the Labour Appeal Court go to the Constitutional Court if that Court grants leave.
LAND COURT	The Land Court Act, 2023 (Act No 6 of 2023), came into effect on 05 April 2024.
	The Court was previously known as the Land Claims Court. The Land Claims Court was established in 1996 and is a creature of the Restitution of Land Rights Act (Act No. 22 of 1994). The Land Claims Court specialised in dealing with disputes that arise out of laws that underpin three of South Africa's land reform initiative. These are the Restitution of Land Rights Act, 1994, the Land Reform (Labour Tenants) Act, 1996 (the Labour Tenants Act) and the Extension of Security of Tenure Act, 1997 (ESTA). This new Court continues to exercise jurisdiction over these statutes, which can be understood as its 'existing jurisdiction'. The primary focus of the Court's existing jurisdiction is to deal with land restitution/land claims cases. The Court deals with restitution cases in the form of referrals from the office of the Commission for the Restitution of Land Rights on direct referral from claimants or affected landowners. The main task of the Court in this regard is to adjudicate whatever legal disputes arise and ensure that dispossessed land or other equitable redress is awarded to those who satisfy the statutory requirements. The Court also adjudicates compensation disputes between the State and landowners or dispossessed persons with reference to section 25(3) of the Constitution.
	The Court also deals with ESTA and the Labour Tenants Act. These two Acts were enacted by parliament to protect occupiers and workers on farms and labour tenants from ill treatment and illegal evictions and to provide them with secure tenure. Provision is made for awarding subsidies to ESTA occupiers and land to labour tenants. The Court has primary jurisdiction under ESTA. However, the various magistrate Courts around the country also have certain jurisdiction in terms of the Extension of Security Tenure Act although their eviction orders are subject to automatic reviews by the Court. Importantly, the Court is entrusted not only with ensuring that the ESTA occupiers are protected against arbitrary evictions, but to ensure that the range of positive protections conferred by ESTA are respected, such as security of tenure, access to services and water. Similarly, under the Labour Tenants Act, the Court's jurisdiction entails protecting labour tenants from arbitrary eviction and securing their tenure as well as adjudicating disputes relating to award of land under Chapter 3 of the Act.
COMPETITION APPEAL COURT	The Competition Appeal Court (CAC) is a specialist Court of appeal in competition matters as defined in the Competition Act (Act 89 of 1998).
	Competition matters are reserved for the exclusive jurisdiction of the Competition Tribunal.
	The CAC hears appeals from and reviews of decisions of the Competition Tribunal, and reviews of decisions of the Competition Commission.
	It has a similar status to that of a High Court. Appeals from the CAC lie to the Constitutional Court if that Court grants leave.
	All the judges who serve on the CAC are High Court Judges appointed by the President on the advice of the Judicial Services Commission for a fixed term. The CAC also comprises acting Judges, seconded from the High Court by the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, after consulting the Judge President of the CAC.

LOWER COURTS	
REGIONAL MAGISTRATES' COURTS (CRIMINAL AND CIVIL COURT)	Regional Magistrates' Courts deal with all offences except treason. These Courts also deal with some civil and family matters.
DISTRICT COURTS (CRIMINAL AND CIVIL / FAMILY COURTS / CHILDREN'S COURTS)	Magistrates' Courts deal with matters falling within their jurisdiction as provided for in the Magistrates' Courts Act. Appeals against judgments of the Magistrates' Courts lie to the High Court.

The hierarchy of the Courts in South Africa can be graphically depicted as follows:

Figure 1: Hierarchical Court Structure



The Chief Justice is the Head of the Judiciary as well as the Head of the Constitutional Court. The Superior Courts Act, 2013 (Act 10 of 2013) defines "Head of Court" as follows:

- in respect of the Constitutional Court, it means the Chief Justice;
- in respect of the Supreme Court of Appeal, it means the President of that Court;
- in respect of any Division of the High Court, it means the Judge President of that Division; and
- in respect of any Court of a status similar to the High Court, it means the most senior Judge of such Court.

Each Head of Court is further supported by a Deputy apart from the Electoral Court and the Competition Appeal Court.

#### **Judicial Accountability**

The overall responsibility of managing judicial functions and overseeing the implementation of the Norms and Standards for the exercise of the judicial functions of all Courts vests in the Chief Justice as Head of the Judiciary, in terms of section 165(6) of the Constitution and section 8(2) of the Superior Courts Act, 10 of 2013.

The Superior Courts Act, 10 of 2013 stipulates that the management of the judicial functions of each Court is the responsibility of the Head of that Court. The Judge President of a Provincial Division of the High Court is also responsible for the co-ordination of the judicial functions of all Magistrates' Courts falling within the jurisdiction of that Division.

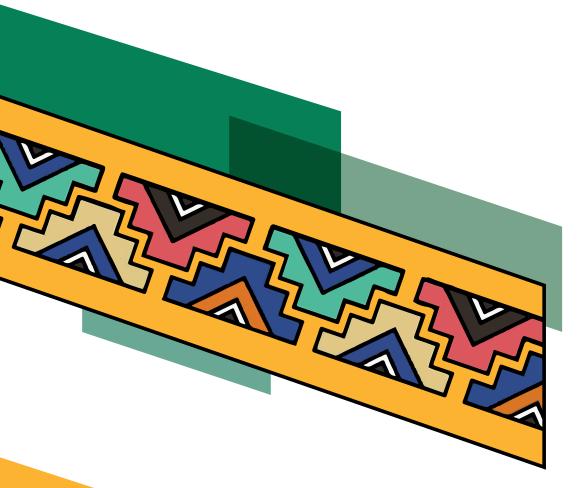
#### Administrative support for the Judiciary

The Office of the Chief Justice (OCJ) was established as a national department:

- to ensure that the Chief Justice can execute his / her mandate as both the Head of the Constitutional Court and the Head of the Judiciary;
- to enhance the institutional, administrative and financial independence of the Judiciary;
- to improve organisational governance and accountability and the effective and efficient use of resources.

The mission of the OCJ is to provide support to the Judiciary to ensure effective and efficient Court administration. The OCJ, led by the Secretary General, provides Court administration and support services to the Superior Courts to ensure the effective and efficient administration of the Superior Courts.

This is done by managing the administration of Superior Courts through the management and funding of the activities and operations of the Superior Courts as well as the provision of administrative and technical support to the Superior Courts, assisting the Chief Justice in monitoring the overall performance of the Courts and enhancing judicial stakeholder relations.





PART B

### JUDICIARY REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Chapter 8 of the Constitution deals with the Judiciary, the Courts and the administration of justice. As indicated in the foreword, section 165(2) of the Constitution provides that the Courts are subject only to the Constitution and the law. The Judges' Remuneration and Conditions of Employment Act, 2001 (Act 47 of 2001), together with regulations promulgated under it govern the terms and conditions of service of Judges.

The following legislative framework was used to develop a reporting mechanism for the South African Judiciary.

#### THE CONSTITUTION

- Section 165(2) of the Constitution provides that the Courts are independent and subject only to the Constitution and the law, which they must apply impartially and without fear, favour or prejudice. Section 165(6) of the Constitution provides that the Chief Justice is the Head of the Judiciary and exercises responsibility over the establishment and monitoring of the Norms and Standards for the exercise of judicial functions of all Courts. Section 8(2) of the Superior Courts Act, 2013 reaffirms the same point.
- Item 16(6)(a) of Schedule 6 to the Constitution provides that as soon as is practical after the new Constitution took effect all Courts, including their structure, composition, functioning and jurisdiction, and all relevant legislation, must be rationalised with a view to establishing a judicial system suited to the requirements of the new Constitution.
- Section 92(2) of the Constitution provides that members of the Cabinet are accountable collectively and individually to Parliament for the exercise of their powers and the performance of their functions.
- In terms of section 55 of the Constitution, the National Assembly must provide for mechanisms to maintain oversight of the exercise of national executive authority, including the implementation of legislation, and any organ of the State. According to section 239, the meaning of "organ of state" expressly excludes a Court or a Judicial Officer.

### THE SUPERIOR COURTS ACT, 2013

- Section 8(3) of the Superior Courts Act stipulates that the Chief Justice may issue written protocols or directives or give guidance or advice to Judicial Officers in respect of Norms and Standards for the performance of judicial functions and regarding any matter affecting the dignity, accessibility, effectiveness, efficiency or functioning of the Courts.
- Section 8(4) provides that any function or power in terms of section 8 vesting in the Chief Justice or any other Head of Court, may be delegated to any other Judicial Officer of the Court in question.
- Section 9 provides that Superior Courts may have recess periods as may be determined by the Chief Justice in consultation with the Heads of Court and the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development in order to enable Judges to do research and to attend to outstanding or prospective judicial functions that may be assigned to them. During each recess period, the Head of each Court must ensure that an adequate number of Judges is available in that Court to deal with any judicial functions that may be required, in the interests of justice, to be dealt with during that recess period.
- In terms of the Regulations on the criteria for the Determination of the Judicial Establishment of the Supreme Court of Appeal and Divisions of the High Court of South Africa, 2015, made in terms of Section 49(1)(b) of the Superior Courts Act, 2013, any determination of the number of Judges at such Courts, must be considered with due regard to Court performance statistics and information relating to the performance of judicial functions.

### NORMS AND STANDARDS FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF JUDICIAL FUNCTIONS

Pursuant to the constitutional imperative contained in section 165(6) of the Constitution and in section 8 of the Superior Courts Act, the Chief Justice established Norms and Standards for the performance of judicial functions in February 2014 with the unanimous support

of the Heads of Court. These Norms and Standards seek to enhance access to quality justice for all, to affirm the dignity of all users of the Court system and to ensure the effective, efficient and expeditious adjudication of disputes brought before the Courts.

Paragraph 6 (i – iii) of the Norms and Standards provides that:

- i. the Chief Justice, as the Head of the Judiciary, shall exercise responsibility over the monitoring and evaluation of the performance of each Judicial Officer as well as the monitoring and implementation of norms and standards for the exercise of leadership and judicial functions of all Courts.
- ii. everything reasonably possible should be done to ensure that Judicial Officers have all the resources and tools of trade availed to them to enable them to perform their judicial functions efficiently and effectively; reporting is an essential and integral part of ensuring effective monitoring and implementation of the norms and standards; all Judicial Officers shall submit data on their performance and the workflow of cases for collating and analysis following upon which a comprehensive report by the Head of Court will be compiled.
- iii. the report must be submitted to the Head of Court who will, in the case of Regional and District Courts, first submit it to the Regional Court President and the Head of the Administrative Region, who in turn will submit it to the Judge President concerned for further submission to the Chief Justice to assess the functioning and the efficiency of the Courts. Each Head of Court shall monitor and evaluate the performance of the Judicial Officers serving in their Court on a daily basis to ensure optimal utilisation and productivity.

### JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION ACT, 1994 AND REGULATIONS

The Judicial Service Commission (JSC) was established in terms of section 178 of the Constitution and consists of 23 members. In terms of section 178(5) of the Constitution, the JSC may advise the national government on any matter relating to the Judiciary or the administration of justice.

Additionally, it performs the following functions:

- it interviews candidates for judicial posts in the Superior Courts and advises the President on the appointment of Judges and is consulted by the President on the appointment of Judges of the Constitutional Court, the Chief Justice, the Deputy Chief Justice as well as the President and Deputy President of the Supreme Court of Appeal.
- it deals with complaints brought against Judges through the Judicial Conduct Committee and Tribunals; and
- it recommends to the National Assembly the removal from office of a Judge who has been found to be grossly incompetent or who has been found guilty of gross misconduct or who suffers from incapacity.

Section 8 of the Judicial Service Commission Act 1994, provides for the establishment and composition of the Judicial Conduct Committee (JCC) to receive, consider and deal with complaints against any Judges. A Code of Judicial Conduct was adopted in terms of section 12 of the Judicial Service Commission Act, 1994. The purpose of the Code is to serve as the prevailing standard of judicial conduct to which Judges must adhere to.

Disclosure of processes relating to complaints against Judges requires striking a balance between judicial independence and dignity, and the overriding principles of transparency and accountability as required by the Judicial Service Commission Act, 1994.

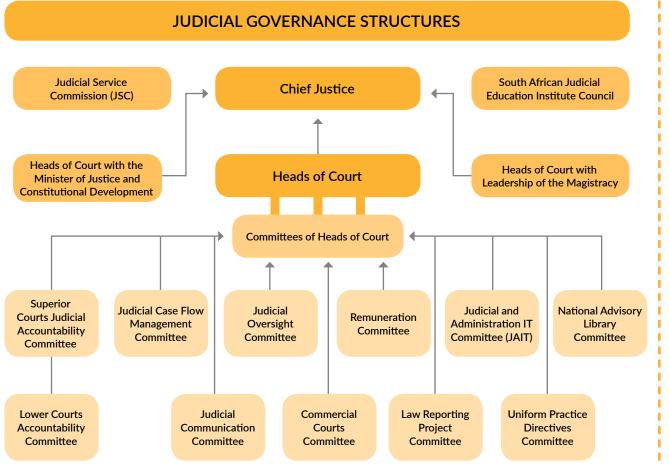
In terms of the Act, complaints against Judges must be based on, inter alia, incapacity giving rise to a Judge's inability to perform the functions of judicial office in accordance with prevailing standards. Performance of functions in accordance with prevailing standards can only be determined through performance statistics, reporting and accountability.

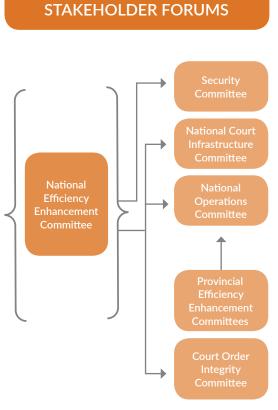
In terms of Article 10(2) of the Code of Judicial Conduct, a Judge must deliver all reserved judgments before the end of the term in which the hearing of the matter was completed, but may, in respect of a matter that was heard within two weeks of the end of that term or where a reserved judgment is of a complex nature or for any other cogent and sound reason and with the consent of the Head of the Court, deliver that reserved judgment during the course of the next term.



PART C

### JUDICIAL GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES





**JUDICIAL GOVERNANCE** 

### DISCLOSURE OF JUDGES' REGISTRABLE INTERESTS

#### **LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

Section 6(1) of the JSC Act requires the Commission to submit a written report to Parliament for tabling within six (6) months after the end of every year.

In terms of section 6(2)(c) of the JSC Act, the report must include information regarding all matters relating to, including the degree of compliance with, the Register of Judges' Registrable Interests as reported by the Registrar of Judges' Registrable Interests (Registrar).

Regulation 5(5) of the Regulations Relating to the Judicial Service Commission Act, 1994: Disclosure of Registrable Interests (the Regulations) requires the Registrar, for the purpose of indicating the degree of compliance with the Register in the annual report of the Commission, also to furnish the Commission with the names of those Judges in active service who have disclosed interests of their family members.

### DISCLOSURE BY JUDGES APPOINTED IN 2024/2025

Section 13(3) of the JSC Act requires that every Judge must disclose to the Registrar particulars of all his or her registrable interests and those of her or his immediate family members, where applicable. The disclosure is done annually.

In terms of Regulation 3(2) of the regulations relating to the disclosure of Judge's registrable interests, newly appointed Judges are required to disclose their registrable interests to the Registrar within 30 days of their appointment.

The Registrar is required to enter the particulars of a disclosure by a Judge in the Register of Judge's Registrable Interests and thereafter cause a copy of all entries relating to that Judge to be communicated to the Judge (Regulation 3(3)).

In 2024/2025, fourteen (14) Judges commenced active service in the Judiciary of South Africa. These Judges disclosed their registrable interests within 30 days of appointment as prescribed by the regulations and the disclosed information has been entered into the Register and copies of entries made into the Register were provided to the Judges in terms of Regulation 3(3).

### STATUS OF DISCLOSURES FOR ALL JUDGES AS OF 31 MARCH 2025

After making the first disclosure, a Judge may at any time disclose to the Registrar or inform the Registrar of such amendments as may be required (Regulation 3(4)). During March of every year, Judges in active service must inform the registrar in writing whether the entries in the register are an accurate reflection of their registrable interest and where applicable, make such further disclosures or amendments as may be required.

In the 2024/2025 financial year, there were 251 Judges in active service and all of them disclosed their registrable interest within the time frame prescribed by the Regulations.

The information disclosed by Judges has been entered into the Register of Judges' Registrable Interests as contemplated by the Regulations.

### JUDGES' DISCLOSURES FOR FAMILY MEMBERS

Regulation 5 of the Regulations Relating to the Judicial Service Commission Act, 1994: Disclosure of Registrable Interests; requires the Registrar to include in his or her annual report to the JSC the names of those Judges in active service who have disclosed interests of their family members.

The disclosed interests have since been entered in the Register of Judges' Registrable Interests in accordance with section 3(3) of the Regulations and Judges have been provided with copies of individual entries to the Register relating to them.

The interests of a Judge's immediate family members are registrable if the Judge wishes to disclose those interests and the immediate family member in question consents to such disclosure. In the period under review 18 Judges disclosed registrable interests of their immediate family members. The interests disclosed with respect to family members are recorded in the confidential section of the Register in accordance with the Regulations.

Table 2: Disclosure of Judges' Registrable Interests

Percentage of disclosures of Judges'	100%
Registrable Interests submitted by 31 March	
2025	
Percentage of disclosures of newly appointed	100%
Judges' Registrable Interests submitted within	
30 days of appointment	

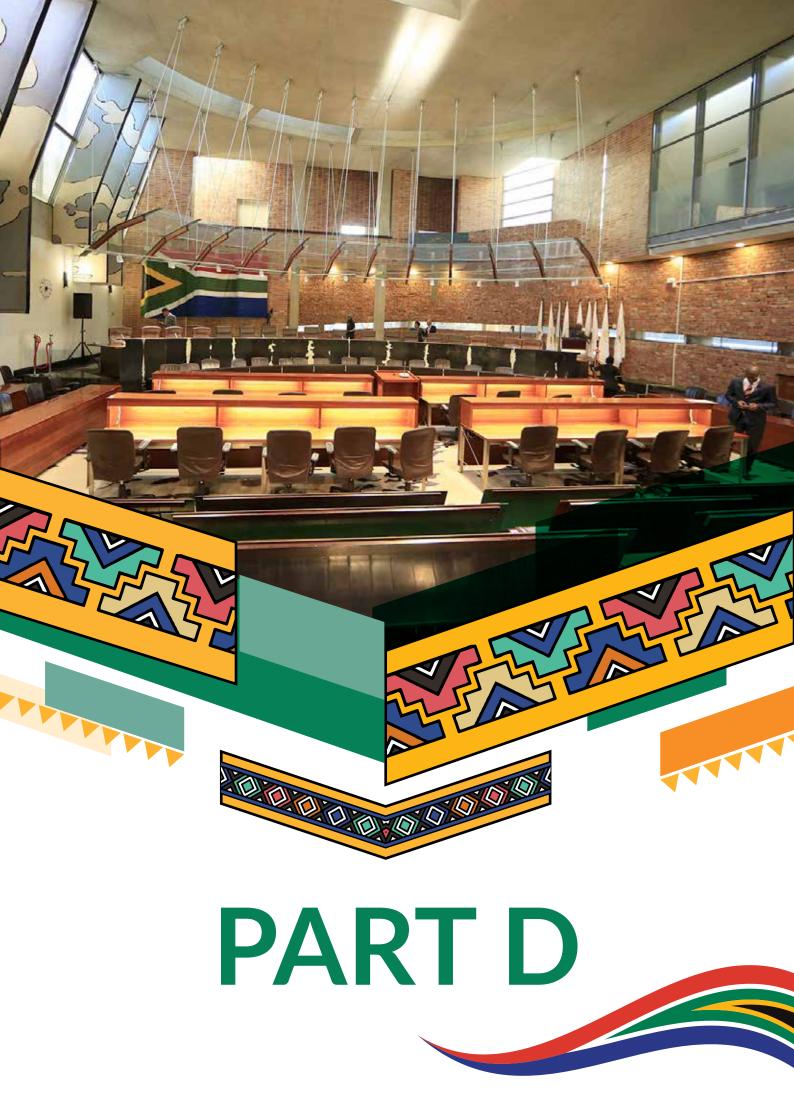
### JUDGES' REMUNERATION AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT ACT, 2001, AND REGULATIONS

The Judges' Remuneration and Conditions of Employment Act, 2001 (Act 47 of 2001), together with regulations promulgated under the Act governs the employment benefits of Judges. The Independent Commission for the Remuneration of Public Office Bearers makes recommendations to the President of the Republic on the salaries, allowances and benefits of Judicial Officers.

### THE SOUTH AFRICAN JUDICIAL EDUCATION INSTITUTE ACT, 2008

The South African Judicial Education Institute (SAJEI) was established to promote the independence, impartiality, dignity, accessibility and effectiveness of the Courts through continuing judicial education as provided for in the South African Judicial Education Institute Act, 2008 (Act 14 of 2008). The Institute commenced with training in January 2012.





### **COURT PERFORMANCE**

In a constitutional democracy, the Judiciary remains accountable to the people for the power and authority bestowed upon it. This holds true in the case of the Judiciary of South Africa as well. Section 165(6) of the Constitution places upon the Chief Justice as the Head of the Judiciary, the responsibility over the establishment and monitoring of norms and standards for the exercise of the judicial functions of all Courts.

Reporting is an essential and integral part of ensuring effective monitoring and implementation of the Norms and Standards. Judicial Officers are required to report on their performance, which includes, amongst others, Judicial Case Flow Management.

The Judicial Accountability Committee (JAC), a committee of the Heads of Court, continues to contribute to the enhancement of Judicial performance.

The purpose of the Court performance monitoring report is to provide progressive updates on the implementation of the Annual Judiciary Performance Plan (AJPP) with specific reference to monitoring delivery against set quarterly performance targets. The report below provides

an overall picture on how the Superior Courts and Lower Courts performed during the period under review.

### KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS: SUPERIOR COURTS

The AJPP indicators for the Judiciary as reflected in the Annual Judiciary Report 2020/2021 remain relevant for the reporting period under review. The AJPP defines and identifies performance indicators and targets for the various Courts. The performance indicators and targets are measures that allow for the monitoring of performance on one or more aspects of the overall functions and mandate of the Judiciary.

Measuring performance through Technical Description Indicators:

The Judiciary defined the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) for each Court and performance area. The Technical Indicator Descriptions (TID) are contained in the Annexure to the AJPP and form part of this Report. The performance per indicator must be read with the relevant TID.

CONSTITUTIONAL COURT	
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE TARGET 2024/2025
Percentage of finalised matters	70%

SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL	
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE TARGET 2024/2025
Percentage of finalised matters	80%
Percentage of finalised Applications / Petitions	80%

LABOUR APPEAL COURT	
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE TARGET 2024/2025
Percentage of finalised matters	80%
Percentage of finalised Petitions	90%

HIGH COURT	
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE TARGET 2024/2025
Percentage of finalised criminal matters	75%
Percentage of finalised Mental Health Applications (*New)	90%
Percentage of finalised civil matters	64%
Percentage to which criminal case backlogs reduced	30%

LABOUR COURT	
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE TARGET 2024/2025
Percentage of finalised labour matters	58%

LAND CLAIMS COURT	
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE TARGET 2024/2025
Percentage of finalised land claims matters	60%

COMPETITION APPEAL COURT	
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE TARGET 2024/2025
Percentage of finalised Competition Appeal cases	85%

ELECTORAL COURT	
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE TARGET 2024/2025
Percentage of finalised Electoral Court cases	90%

RESERVED JUDGMENTS	
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE TARGET 2024/2025
Percentage of finalised Reserved Judgments in all Superior Courts	70%

### PERFORMANCE OF THE SUPERIOR COURTS

For the period under review, 10 of 14 performance targets were achieved. This represents a 71% achievement. The following four (4) performance targets were not achieved:

- i. Percentage of finalised Supreme Court of Appeal Cases (72%);
- ii. Percentage of finalised Labour Appeal Matters (71%);
- iii. Percentage of finalised Criminal Cases (73%);
- iv. Percentage to which criminal case backlogs reduced (43%); and

The performance of the Superior Courts is depicted in the table below:

**Table 3: Performance on Key Performance Indicators** 

Indicators		Annual 2024/2025			
	Actual	Target	Outcome		
1. Percentage of finalised Constitutional Court Cases	71%	70%	Above Target		
2. Percentage of finalised Supreme Court of Appeal Cases	72%	80%	Below Target		
3. Percentage of finalised Supreme Court Application/ Petition	97%	80%	Above Target		
4. Percentage of finalised Labour Appeal Matters	71%	80%	Below Target		
5. Percentage of finalised Labour Appeal Court Petitions	93%	90%	Above Target		
6. Percentage of finalised Criminal Cases (all High Court Divisions)	73%	75%	Below Target		
7. Percentage of finalised Mental Health Applications (all High Court Divisions)	97%	90%	Above Target		
8. Percentage of finalised Civil Cases (all High Court Divisions)	88%	64%	Above Target		
9. Percentage to which Criminal Case Backlogs reduced (all High Court Divisions)	43%	30%	Below Target		
10. Percentage of finalised Labour Court matters	55%	58%	Below Target		
11. Percentage of finalised Land Court Cases	60%	60%	On Target		
12. Percentage of finalised Competition Appeal Court Cases	86%	85%	Above Target		
13. Percentage of finalised Electoral Court Cases	100%	90%	Above Target		
14. Percentage of finalised Reserved Judgment in all Superior Courts	71%	70%	Above Target		

### CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OVERVIEW

**Table 4: Finalised Constitutional Court matters** 

Indicator	Total cases	Finalised	Percentage	Target
Percentage of Finalised Constitutional Court matters	544	387	71%	70%

The Constitutional Court exceeded the target on the percentage of finalised Constitutional Court Cases by achieving 71% during this reporting period. The performance for the reporting period is above the set

annual target of 70%. A total of 387 matters out of a total of 544 were finalised by the Constitutional Court. Noteworthy is the fact that this achievement was during the tenure of the current Chief Justice.

Figure 2: Finalised Constitutional Court Matters



The total number of matters dealt with by the Constitutional Court increased by 0,2% from 543 matters during 2023/2024 to 544 during 2024/2025.

Similarly, the total number of matters finalised by the Constitutional Court increased by 7% from 361 matters during 2023/2024 to 387 matters during 2024/2025.

### SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL OVERVIEW

**Table 5: Finalised Supreme Court of Appeals matters** 

Indicator	Total cases	Finalised	Percentage	Target
Percentage of finalised Appeals	264	189	72%	80%
Percentage of finalised Application/Petitions	1,161	1,126	97%	80%

During the period under review, the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA) achieved 72% performance on the indicator "Percentage of Appeals finalised" by finalising 189 appeals out of a total of 264 appeals. This was below the set annual target of 80%.

The reason for the deviation of 8% from the 80% target is mainly due to two factors, namely (i) the postponement of appeals at the request of the parties and (ii) the fact that the research support made available to the Judges of the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA) was inadequate during

the 2024/2025 reporting period (the reporting period). The SCA is the second highest appellate court in respect of matters of general jurisdiction. It is also an appellate court that handles the highest number of appeals. An adequate number of law researchers is essential for the timeous finalisation of appeals in that court. Although the caseload of the SCA has been increasing steadily over the years, the number of Justices on the SCA establishment has not increased proportionately. During the reporting period, the number of researchers on

the staff establishment of the SCA remained woefully inadequate. Notably, during the first 6 (six months) of the reporting period, all the law researchers on the SCA staff establishment were on 3-year fixed term contracts and the senior law researcher post was vacant; this had a negative impact on the court's performance. Several law researchers who were appointed on fixed term contracts resigned and accepted permanent employment elsewhere. During this reporting period, the challenge of a high staff turnover in the research component was compounded by the fact that vacancies could not be filled immediately. The reason advanced by the OCJ national office for the delay in advertising vacant posts was that the filling of vacant posts had been suspended on account of austerity measures that were put in place by Treasury and the implementation of Circular 49 of the Department of Public Service and Administration. The austerity measures were introduced by the Executive arm of the State without consulting the judiciary. It bears emphasis that during the last four months of the reporting period, the ratio of law researchers to Judges was 1:7 (i.e one law researcher having to assist up to 7 Judges), whereas the ideal position is for the number of law researchers on the SCA staff establishment to match the number of Judges serving the court. The upshot was that by the end of the financial year (31 March 2025), which coincided with the end of the court term, there was insufficient research capacity to assist the Judges with the final editing of some of the judgments penned before 31 March 2025, which in turn resulted in the late circulation of those judgments. All things considered, the non-achievement of the set target of 80% was inevitable. Unquestionably, an inadequate research capacity hinders the Judges' preparation for their appeal hearings and consequently delays the final circulation and editing of draft judgments; this therefore has a bearing on the finalisation of the appeals. To address the challenge of an inadequate research capacity, numerous requests were made to increase the number of law researchers on the staff establishment of the SCA. Throughout the reporting period, such requests were rejected on the basis that there was no funding for posts which were not included in the existing SCA staff establishment. Unfortunately, during 2024/2025 the challenge of inadequate researchers had still not been addressed.

The SCA achieved 97% performance on the indicator "Percentage of Applications/Petitions finalised" by finalising 1 126 applications/petitions out of a total caseload of 1 161 applications/petitions. This represents an over achievement of 17 percentage points performance measured against the set annual target of 80%.

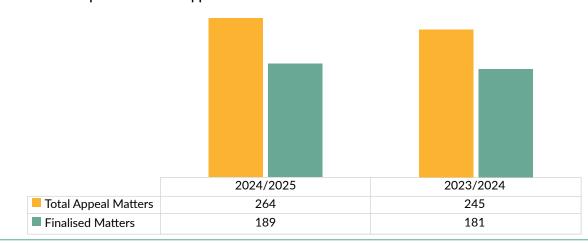
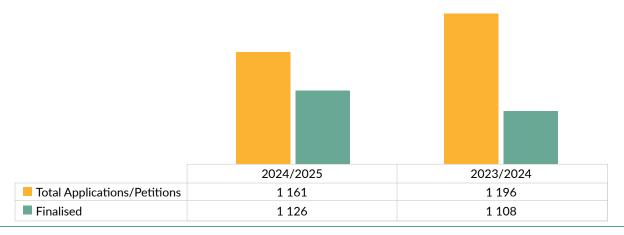


Figure 3: Finalised Supreme Court of Appeal Matters

The total number of appeals matters enrolled by the Supreme Court of Appeal increased by 8% from 245 matters during 2023/2024 to 264 matters during 2024/2025. On the other hand, the total number

of appeals finalised by the Supreme Court of Appeal decreased by 4% from 181 appeals finalised during 2023/2024 to 189 appeals finalised during 2024/2025.

Figure 4: Finalised Supreme Court of Appeal Applications/Petitions



The total number of applications/petitions enrolled by the Supreme Court of Appeal decreased by 3% from 1,196 applications/petitions during 2023/2024 to 1,161 applications/petitions during 2024/2025. In contrast, the total number of applications/petitions finalised by the Supreme Court of Appeal increased by 2% from 1,108 applications/petitions finalised during 2023/2024 to 1,126 applications/petitions finalised during 2024/2025.

### SPECIALISED COURTS OVERVIEW

### **Labour Appeal Court**

**Table 6: Finalised Labour Appeal Court Matters** 

Indicator	Total cases	Finalised	Percentage	Target
Finalised Labour Appeal Court Matters	78	55	71%	80%
Finalised Labour Appeal Court Petition	114	106	93%	90%

During the period under review, the Labour Appeal Court achieved 71% performance on the indicator "Percentage of finalised Appeals" by finalising 55 appeals out of a total case load of 78 appeals. This was below the set annual target of 80% by nine (9) percentage points.

The Labour Appeal Court achieved 93% performance on the indicator "Percentage of finalised Petitions" by finalising 106 petitions out of a total caseload of 114 petitions. This represents an over achievement by three (3) percentage points performance measured against the set annual target of 90%.

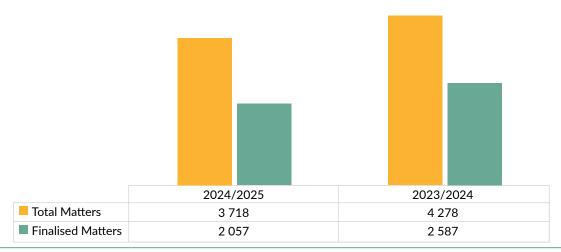
Table 7: Finalised matters in Specialised Courts: Labour, Land, Electoral and Competition Appeal Courts

Indicators	Total cases	Finalised	Percentage	Target
Labour Court matters	3,718	2,057	55%	58%
Durban	741	517	70%	58%
Johannesburg	2,308	1,094	47%	58%
Cape Town	333	233	70%	58%
Gqeberha	336	213	63%	58%
Land Court matters	131	78	60%	60%
Electoral Court cases	37	37	100%	90%
Competition Appeal Court cases	7	6	86%	85%

#### **Labour Court**

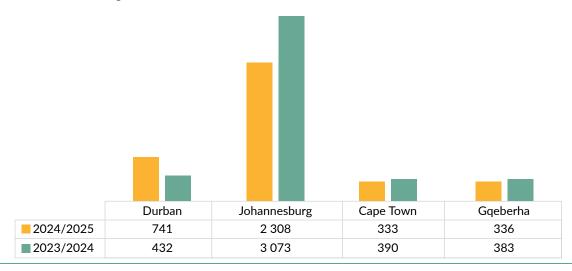
The Labour Court achieved 55% performance by finalising 2,057 Labour Court matters out of a total of 3,718 matters. This is an under achievement by three percentage points against the set annual target of 58%.

Figure 5: Finalised Labour Court Matters



During the period under review, 13% less Labour Court matters were enrolled in 2024/2025 compared to 2023/2024, similarly 20% less matters were finalised in 2024/2025 compared to 2023/2024.

Figure 6: Labour Court Sittings - Total cases enrolled

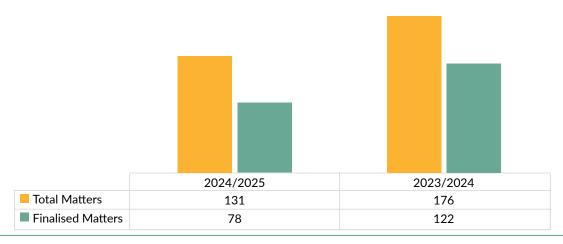


The Labour Court sits mainly in four (4) locations, namely Durban, Gqeberha, Cape Town and Johannesburg. The case load decreased in three centres, except for Durban, with an increase of 72%. Matters enrolled in the three Labour Court centres decreased (i.e. with 25% in Johannesburg, 15% in Cape Town and 12% in Gqeberha).

#### **Land Court**

The Land Court achieved 60% performance by finalising 78 matters out of a total of 131 and the set annual target of 60% was met.

Figure 7: Finalised Land Court Matters

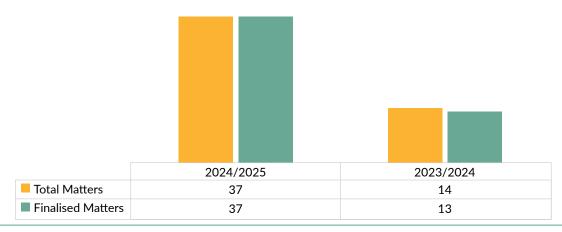


During the period under review, 26% less Land Court matters were enrolled in 2024/2025 compared to 2023/2024, similarly 36% less matters were finalised in 2024/2025 compared to 2023/2024.

### **Electoral Court**

The Electoral Court achieved a 100% performance by finalising 37 out of a total of 37 matters, which represents an over achievement of 10 percentage points against the set annual target of 90%.

Figure 8: Finalised Electoral Court Matters

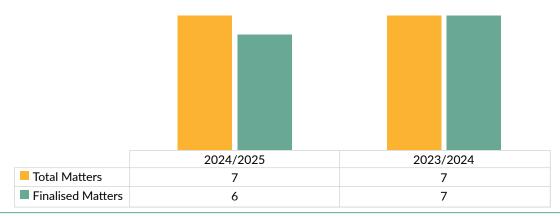


During the period under review, 164% more Electoral Court matters were enrolled in 2024/2025 compared to 2023/2024, similarly 185% more matters were finalised in 2024/2025 compared to 2023/2024.

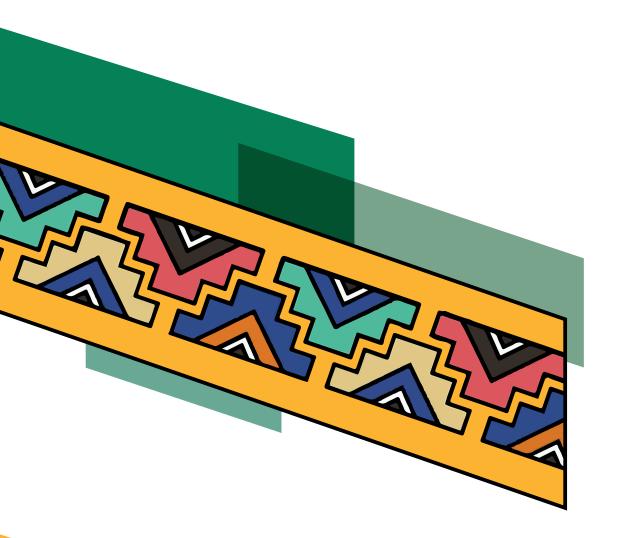
### **Competition Appeal Court**

The Competition Appeal Court achieved 86% by finalising six (6) matters out of a total of seven (7), which represents an over achievement of one (1) percentage points against the set annual target of 85%.

Figure 9: Finalised Competition Appeal Court Matters



There were no changes in the Competition Appeal Court matters enrolled in 2024/2025 compared to 2023/2024, however, 14% less matters were finalised in 2024/2025 compared to 2023/2024.



### PERCENTAGE OF CRIMINAL MATTERS FINALISED

During the period under review, the various Divisions of the High Court managed to finalise 3 577 criminal matters out of a total of 4 884 criminal matters, which represents a performance of 73%. This is an under achievement of two (2) percentage points against the set target of 75%.

The respective performances of the Divisions of the High Court are illustrated in the table below.

Table 8: Percentage of finalised Criminal matters in each Division

COURT NAME	Total Cases	Finalised	Percentage	Target
Eastern Cape Division, Makhanda	249	226	91%	75%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Bhisho	46	30	65%	75%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Mthatha	75	50	67%	75%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Gqeberha	85	62	73%	75%
Eastern Cape Division	455	368	81%	75%
Free State Division, Bloemfontein	379	334	88%	75%
Gauteng Division, Pretoria	505	327	65%	75%
Gauteng Local Division, Johannesburg	471	297	63%	75%
Gauteng Division	976	624	64%	75%
KwaZulu-Natal Division, Pietermaritzburg	870	643	74%	75%
KwaZulu-Natal Local Division, Durban	337	210	62%	75%
KwaZulu-Natal Division	1,207	853	71%	75%
Limpopo Division, Polokwane	277	175	63%	75%
Limpopo Local Division, Thohoyandou	206	123	60%	75%
Limpopo Division	483	298	62%	75%
Mpumalanga Division, Mbombela	78	61	78%	75%
Mpumalanga Local Division, Middelburg	123	93	76%	75%
Mpumalanga Division	201	154	77%	75%
North-West Division, Mahikeng	281	232	83%	75%
Northern Cape Division, Kimberley	120	83	69%	75%
Western Cape Division, Cape Town	782	631	81%	75%
National Total	4,884	3,577	73%	75%

From the above national overview, it is evident that 38% (6 of 16) of the Divisions of the High Court have managed to achieve the set annual target of 75%. The 10 Divisions that did not meet the set annual target of 75% were Eastern Cape Local Division, Mthatha (67%); Eastern Cape Local Division, Bisho (65%), Eastern Cape Local Division, Gqeberha (73%); Gauteng Division,

Pretoria (65%), Gauteng Local Division, Johannesburg (63%); KwaZulu-Natal Division, Pietermaritzburg (74%); KwaZulu-Natal Local Division, Durban (62%); Limpopo Division, Polokwane (63%); Limpopo Local Division, Thohoyandou (60%), and Northern Cape Division, Kimberley (69%).

The reasons for deviation from achieving the set targets are as follows:

#### • The Division of the High Court, Gauteng

The underperformance by the Gauteng Division as it relates to the finalisation of Criminal Trials generally stems from the conduct of the accused and sometimes their legal representatives, for any number of reasons, inter alia:

- Launching unnecessary interlocutory applications for discovery of documents;
- ii. Forcing the holding of trials within a trial with the intention of throwing out statements or evidence brought before the Court:
- iii. Constant change of legal representation;
- iv. Constant postponements to brief new legal representation (owing to alleged financial constraints);
- v. Requests for consultations and records when a new legal representative comes on board; and
- vi. Delays in holding pre-trials and pleading.

The proposed solution is to request all Judges to complete trials during recess in order to expedite the finalisation of the matters.

#### The Division of the High Court, KwaZulu-Natal (KZN)

The Division has a limited number of Criminal Courts and as a result the Division was not able to accommodate all matters. Furthermore, the Division has a few criminal trials running for long and those Courts cannot deal with new matters.

The Division has requested an additional appointment to the establishment from the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development and this was approved and is working well so far. The Division has also asked the Acting Judges to complete their trials during recess, which assists in freeing up the Courts.

#### • The Division of the High Court, Limpopo

The decline is attributable to, amongst other things, the following considerations:

- Several postponements of trials;
- Part heard matters for hearing of further evidence;

- Abrupt termination of legal representative's mandate on short notice:
  - Enrolment by the Director Public Prosecutions (DPP)
     of multiple new cases on the trial roll, compounding
     the problem being the accused persons facing a
     plethora of charges;
  - Enrolment by the DPP of such cases as referred above, not ripe for trial, and;
  - Failure by Legal Aid to appoint Judicare for indigent accused persons.

The following corrective measures were adopted;

- Appointment of Retired Judge, Acting Judges and pro bono Acting Judges were identified to reduce the backlogs in criminal cases.
- Developed compulsory Judicial Criminal Pre-Trials, Practice Directives, which came into effect on 06 October 2024. The implementation of the said Practice Directives begun seamlessly during the First Term of 2025.
- One of the effective ways proposed in order to mitigate the placement of multiple offenders charged with multiple counts on the trial roll, is to isolate those matters from the ordinary trial rolls in a specific Term and place them on a separate Special Trial Roll. This is where the engagement of retired Judges becomes crucial in order to case manage the already congested Court rolls (where in Thohoyandou Local Division e.g. only two (2) Judges are allocated to try criminal cases, sit at a time because of its historical establishment).
- This obvious imbalance of the heavy workload, needless to mention, underpins the need to capacitate judicial resources with special reference to appointment of additional permanent Judges in critical jurisdictions.

#### The Division of the High Court, Northern Cape

Reasons for deviations:

- An increase in the volume of criminal cases coupled with the shortage of Judges negatively influenced the timely disposition of criminal cases.
- Complex and multiple accused cases contribute to delays and prolonged periods of trials. In some instances, interlocutory litigation caused delays.

- The unavailability of witnesses and the postponement of cases due to the unavailability of mental health evaluation and DNA (Forensic) reports from South African Police Services (SAPS) contribute to inordinate delays.
- The termination of legal representatives' mandate during the cause of the trials and seeking replacements.
- Delays in transcription of trial proceedings for replacement legal representatives.
- The system used by Legal Aid South Africa to appoint judicare representative is cumbersome.
- Double booking of legal representation.
- Long distance travel between the seat of the Court and the circuit Courts.

- Electricity load shedding/ load reduction and unavailability of generators that can carry the weight of recording machines.
- Giving preference to backlog cases that compete with new cases for limited judicial resources.
- Austerity measures imposed on the judicial support structure without consulting the Judiciary by the Executive Arm of the State.

Measures to mitigate under performance

- Factors resulting in case backlogs are identified and resolved by means of stakeholder cooperation through the PEEC.
- The appointment of Acting Judges additional to the establishment will contribute to a reduction in the risk of increasing the existing backlogs.

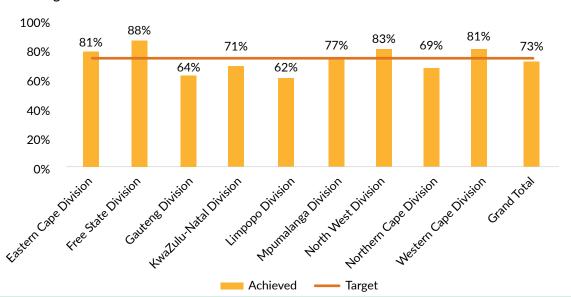


Figure 10: Percentage of Finalised Criminal Matters in each Division.

The highest percentage of finalised Criminal Matters was achieved by the Free State Division (88%) followed by the North West Division (83%); and Western Cape and Eastern Cape Divisions both with (81%).

### PERCENTAGE OF FINALISED MENTAL HEALTH APPLICATIONS PER COURT

The table above shows that a total of 7 664 mental health applications were finalised out of total 7 905 in the reporting period, which represents a performance of 97%.

Table 9: Percentage of finalised Mental Health Applications per Court

COURT NAME	Total Cases	Finalised	Percentage	Target
Eastern Cape Division, Makhanda	578	557	96%	90%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Bhisho	94	94	100%	90%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Mthatha	1	1	100%	90%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Gqeberha	Nill	Nill	Nill	90%
Eastern Cape Division	673	652	97%	90%
Free State Division, Bloemfontein	289	283	98%	90%
Gauteng Division, Pretoria	255	252	99%	90%
Gauteng Local Division, Johannesburg	41	37	90%	90%
Gauteng Division	296	289	98%	90%
KwaZulu-Natal Division, Pietermaritzburg	532	489	92%	90%
KwaZulu-Natal Local Division, Durban	470	443	94%	90%
KwaZulu-Natal Division	1,002	932	93%	90%
Limpopo Division, Polokwane	1,045	1,045	100%	90%
Limpopo Local Division, Thohoyandou	311	311	100%	90%
Limpopo Division	1,356	1,356	100%	90%
Mpumalanga Division, Mbombela	Nill	Nill	Nill	90%
Mpumalanga Local Division, Middelburg	Nill	Nill	Nill	90%
Mpumalanga Division	Nill	Nill	Nill	90%
North-West Division, Mahikeng	60	60	100%	90%
Northern Cape Division, Kimberley	336	333	99%	90%
Western Cape Division, Cape Town	3,893	3,759	97%	90%
National Total	7,905	7,664	97%	90%

Nationally, there was an over achievement of the set target of 90%. All the Courts that dealt with Mental Health Applications met the set target. It is also worth noting that there were three (3) Courts that did not receive Mental Health Applications.

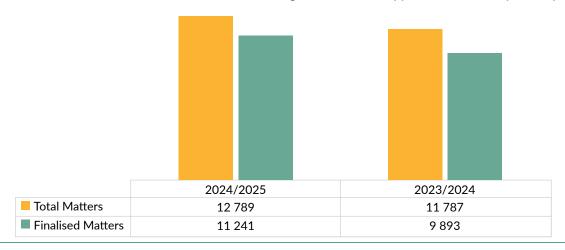


Figure 11: Percentage of Finalised Mental Health Applications per Division.



The Figure above indicates that all the Divisions met the set target of 90%. Limpopo Division and North West Division finalised all Mental Health Applications enrolled.

Figure 12: Year-on-Year Finalised Criminal matters (including Mental health Applications for comparison purposes)



Nationally, for all the high Courts, 8,5% more criminal matters (including Mental Health application) were enrolled in 2024/2025 compared to 2023/2024, similarly 13,6% more criminal matters (including Mental Health applications) were finalised in 2024/2025 compared to 2023/2024.

### PERCENTAGE OF CIVIL MATTERS FINALISED (ALL HIGH COURT DIVISIONS)

During the period under review, a total of 131 465 Civil Matters were finalised out of a total of 148 724. This represents an 88% performance against the set annual target of 64%. This reflects an over achievement of 23 percentage points. All the Divisions of the High Court exceeded the set annual target of 64% for civil matters finalised.

Table 10: Percentage of Finalised Civil Matters per Court

COURT NAME	Total Cases	Finalised	Percentage	Target
Eastern Cape Division, Makhanda	5,801	4,947	85%	64%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Bhisho	1,201	927	77%	64%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Mthatha	4,947	4,360	88%	64%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Gqeberha	3,278	2,879	88%	64%
Eastern Cape Division	15,227	13,113	86%	64%
Free State Division, Bloemfontein	6,170	5,564	90%	64%
Gauteng Division, Pretoria	42,120	38,134	91%	64%
Gauteng Local Division, Johannesburg	24,811	24,021	97%	64%
Gauteng Division	66,931	62,155	93%	64%
KwaZulu-Natal Division, Pietermaritzburg	8,287	6,762	82%	64%
KwaZulu-Natal Local Division, Durban	10,180	8,654	85%	64%
KwaZulu-Natal Division	18,467	15,416	83%	64%
Limpopo Division, Polokwane	10,751	9,329	87%	64%
Limpopo Local Division, Thohoyandou	3,642	3,440	94%	64%
Limpopo Division	14,393	12,769	89%	64%
Mpumalanga Division, Mbombela	2,558	2,286	89%	64%
Mpumalanga Local Division, Middelburg	2,803	2,187	78%	64%
Mpumalanga Division	5,361	4,473	83%	64%
North-West Division, Mahikeng	5,030	3,998	79%	64%
Northern Cape Division, Kimberley	2,820	2,450	87%	64%
Western Cape Division, Cape Town	14,325	11,527	80%	64%
National Total	148,724	131,465	88%	64%

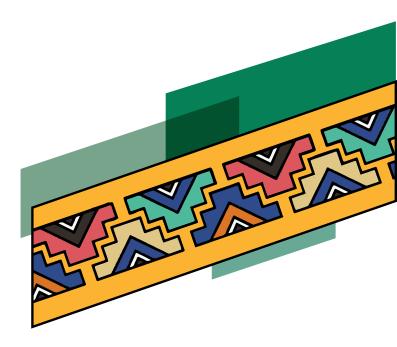
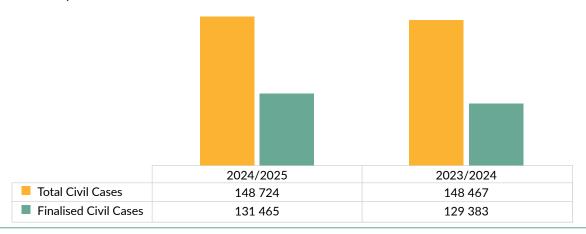
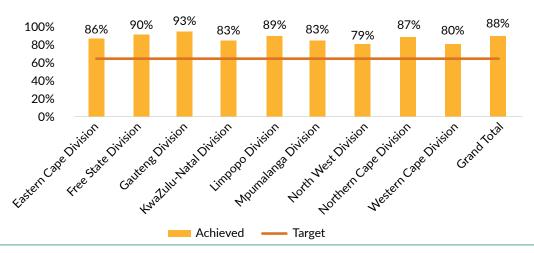


Figure 13: Year-on-year Finalised Civil Cases



Compared to the previous reporting period, an increase of 0,2% (from 148 467 to 148 724) of the total number of Civil Matters enrolled is noted. Compared to the previous reporting period, the total number of civil matters finalised also increased by 1,6% (from 129 393 to 131 465).

Figure 14: Percentage of Finalised Civil Cases per Division.



High percentages of Finalised Civil Matters were maintained by all High Court Divisions, with the Gauteng Division achieving the highest percentage of 93%, as depicted in the graph above, followed by the Free State Division (90%), and the Limpopo Division (89%).

### REDUCTION PERCENTAGE OF CRIMINAL CASE BACKLOGS

The Judiciary is committed to the reduction and, ultimately, the elimination of case backlogs in our Courts. The reduction level percentage of Criminal Case backlog refers to the percentage by which it was intended to reduce the case backlog during the period under review and thus the percentage of case backlog should be maintained below the set target.

This indicator aims mainly to improve the timely disposition of criminal cases, which is essential for the enhancement of public confidence in the justice system. The annual target for all Superior Courts is to reduce backlogs to the level of 30%. The aim is to ensure that the percentage of backlogs should be maintained at a percentage that is below this annual target of 30%.

At the end of the period under review, the total number of outstanding Criminal Trial cases in the various Divisions of the High Court was 333, whereas the total number of backlog cases was 144, representing a backlog percentage of 43%. The performance during the reporting period is, therefore, above the annual set target of 30%. This is an under achievement by 13 percentage points performance.

Table 11: Reduction percentage of criminal case backlogs.

COURT NAME	Total Cases	Backlogs	Percentages	Target
Eastern Cape Division, Makhanda	10	3	30%	30%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Bhisho	6	2	33%	30%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Mthatha	17	12	71%	30%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Gqeberha	20	10	50%	30%
Eastern Cape Division	53	27	51%	30%
Free State Division, Bloemfontein	16	7	44%	30%
Gauteng Division, Pretoria	42	12	29%	30%
Gauteng Local Division, Johannesburg	33	18	55%	30%
Gauteng Division	75	30	40%	30%
KwaZulu-Natal Division, Pietermaritzburg	42	21	50%	30%
KwaZulu-Natal Local Division, Durban	17	10	59%	30%
KwaZulu-Natal Division	59	31	53%	30%
Limpopo Division, Polokwane	9	1	11%	30%
Limpopo Local Division, Thohoyandou	21	6	29%	30%
Limpopo Division	30	7	23%	30%
Mpumalanga Division, Mbombela	8	4	50%	30%
Mpumalanga Division, Middelburg	17	9	53%	30%
Mpumalanga Division	25	13	52%	30%
North West Division, Mahikeng	26	9	35%	30%
Northern Cape Division, Kimberley	19	7	37%	30%
Western Cape Division, Cape Town	30	13	43%	30%
National Total	333	144	43%	30%

It should be noted that in order to successfully attain the indicator on backlogs, the percentage of backlogs should be maintained at a percentage that is below the annual target of 30%.

The target was achieved in the Limpopo Division (23%) as depicted in the graph below.

60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% 0% KwaZulu-Northern Western National Eastern Free Gauteng Limpopo Mpumalanga North State Division Natal Division Division West Cape Total Cape Cape Division Division Division Division Division Division 44% 40% 53% 23% 52% 35% 37% 43% 43% Finalised 51% 30% Target 30% 30% 30% 30% 30% 30% 30% 30% 30%

Figure 15: Reduction level percentage of criminal case backlog in each Division

The reasons for deviation from achieving the set targets are as follows:

#### • The Division of the High Court, Gauteng

The underperformance by the Gauteng Division, Pretoria as it relates to the finalisation of Criminal Trials generally stems from the conduct of the accused and sometimes their legal representatives, for any number of reasons, inter alia:

- Launching unnecessary interlocutory applications for discovery of documents;
- Forcing the holding of trials within a trial with the intention of throwing out statements or evidence brought before the Court;
- iii. Constant change of legal representation;
- iv. Constant postponements to brief new legal representation (owing to alleged financial constraints);
- v. Requests for consultations and records when a new legal representative comes on board; and
- vi. Delays in holding pre-trials and pleading.

The proposed solution is for Judges – both permanent and acting – to set matters down during recess in order to finalise them.

## • The Division of the High Court, KwaZulu-Natal

The Division has a limited number of criminal Courts and as a result the Division is not able to accommodate all. Furthermore, the Division has a few long criminal trials running and those Courts cannot deal with new matters.

The proposed solution is that the Division have requested an additional appointment to the establishment from the Minister of Justice and this was approved and is working well so far. The Division also has requested the Acting Judges to complete their trials during recess, which assists in freeing up the Courts.

#### The Division of the High Court, Free State

Reasons for deviations:

- Long trials involving multiple accused, where accused persons change legal representation midstream
- Interlocutory applications leading to delays in finalisation of matters
- Requests for consultations and records when a new legal representative comes on board

Measures to mitigate underperformance

- Judges to grant postponements only when necessary and for short periods as possible.
- Judges to use recess periods to finalise partly heard criminal trials.

#### The Division of the High Court, Mpumalanga

All backlog matters are part heard matters. Judges are only able to deal with part heard matters during recess. The shortage of criminal Court rooms, Judges and support staff impacts negatively in reducing number of backlog matters.

The proposed solution is:

- Upgrading of Court facilities, availability and utilisation of Court rooms for the seating of the circuit Courts for the whole term and recess period and not on rotational basis at Breyten, Delmas. KwaMhlanga, Middelburg, Graskop and Barberton.
- Provision of additional Judges to deal with current Court matters to enable Judges with backlog matters to attend to part heard matters.
- Provision of additional Criminal Courts for Judges to deal with backlog matters.
- Provision of additional Court rooms in a form of parkhomes, and appointment of support staff.
- National office to expedite the finalisation of upgrading and renovations of the KwaMhlanga Circuit Court.

#### • The Division of the High Court, North West

- Long trials, multiple accused and multiple representation challenges.
- Unavailability of witnesses.
- Shortage of Judges

#### • The Division of the High Court, Northern Cape

Reasons for deviations:

- An increase in the volume of Criminal Cases coupled with the shortage of Judges negatively influenced the timely disposition of criminal cases.
- Complex and multiple accused cases contribute to delays and prolonged periods of trials. In some instances, interlocutory litigation caused delays.
- The unavailability of witnesses and the postponement of cases due to the unavailability of mental health evaluation and DNA (Forensic) reports from SAPS contribute to inordinate delays.
- The termination of legal representatives' mandate during the cause of the trials and seeking replacements.
- Delays in transcription of trial proceedings for replacement legal representatives.
- The system used by Legal Aid South Africa to appoint judicare representative is cumbersome.

- Double booking of legal representatives.
- Long distance travel between the seat of the Court and the circuit Courts.
- Electricity loadshedding/load reduction and unavailability of generators that can carry the weight of recording machines.

Measures to mitigate under performance

- Factors resulting in case backlogs are identified and resolved by means of stakeholder cooperation through the PEEC.
- The appointment of Acting Judges additional to the establishment will contribute to a reduction in the risk of increasing the existing backlogs.

### • The Division of the High Court, Western Cape

The WC Division of the High Court is annually seized with cases which have multiple charges (in excess of 100) against multiple accused (+/- 15 to 20), which are high risk and sensitive cases. These cases run for longer periods often in excess of a year and are often riddled with interlocutory trials within a trial.

Over the last year initiatives were undertaken to better manage the roll as the Judiciary. The Judiciary is actively engaging with the DPP in regard to the transfer of cases to the High Court and a process document has been developed in this regard. The use of case management has been fruitful and has led to an increase in finalised cases through Section 105A and Section 112 of the Criminal Procedure Act.

# PERCENTAGEOFRESERVEDJUDGMENTS FINALISED IN ALL SUPERIOR COURTS

During the period under review, a total of 5 441 reserved judgments were delivered within three (3) months from the date on which they were reserved. This was out of a total of 7 611 judgments delivered, which represents an achievement of 71% performance. The target of 70% was therefore exceeded by one (1) percentage point.

Table 12: Percentage of finalised Reserved Judgments in all Superior Courts

COURT NAME	Reserved Judgments Delivered	Delivered Within 3 Months	Percentages	Target
Constitutional Court	40	5	13%	70%
Supreme Court of Appeal	183	132	72%	70%
Labour Appeal Court	104	69	66%	70%
Competition Appeal Court	4	3	75%	70%
Electoral Court	18	18	100%	70%
Labour Court Cape Town	138	89	64%	70%
Labour Court Durban	117	69	59%	70%
Labour Court Johannesburg	507	345	68%	70%
Labour Court Gqeberha	110	76	69%	70%
Labour Courts	872	579	66%	70%
Land Court	35	24	69%	70%
Eastern Cape Division, Makhanda	323	249	77%	70%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Bhisho	39	26	67%	70%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Mthatha	138	68	49%	70%
Eastern Cape Local Division, Gqeberha	131	94	72%	70%
Eastern Cape Division	631	437	69%	70%
Free State Division, Bloemfontein	484	289	60%	70%
Gauteng Division, Pretoria	1,124	894	80%	70%
Gauteng Local Division, Johannesburg	1,447	1,214	84%	70%
Gauteng Division	2,571	2,108	82%	70%
KwaZulu-Natal Division, Pietermaritzburg	261	172	66%	70%
KwaZulu-Natal Local Division, Durban	322	245	76%	70%
KwaZulu-Natal Division	583	417	72%	70%
Limpopo Division, Polokwane	292	167	57%	70%
Limpopo Local Division, Thohoyandou	67	22	33%	70%
Limpopo Division	359	189	53%	70%
Mpumalanga Division, Mbombela	168	99	59%	70%
Mpumalanga Local Division, Middelburg	190	137	72%	70%
Mpumalanga Division	358	236	66%	70%
North West Division, Mahikeng	389	205	53%	70%
Northern Cape Division, Kimberley	135	85	63%	70%
Western Cape Division, Cape Town	845	645	76%	70%
National Total	7,611	5,441	71%	70%

120% 100% 100% 82% 76% 71% 75% 72% 66% 80% 66% 69% 69% 72% 66% 63% 60% 60% 53% 53% 40% 20% 13% Lauren Petreca Loure Court Junious Court of Appeal North West Division Labour Appeal Court Electoral Court astern Cape Division Lora Zilly Hatal Division Moundanea Division Western Cape Division Labour Court Live State Division Aothern Case Division Constitutional Court Limpopo Division 0% Castene Division

Percentage •

Target

Figure 16: Percentage of finalised Reserved Judgments in all Superior Courts

The figure above indicates that six (6) Courts met the target: The Supreme Court of Appeal (72%), Electoral Court (100%), Competition Appeal Court (75%), Gauteng Division (82%), KwaZulu-Natal Division (72%) and Western Cape Division (76%).

The reasons for deviation from achieving the set targets are as follows:

#### Constitutional Court

The Constitutional Court's schedule is significantly impacted by high-profile, complex, and urgent matters that fall within its exclusive jurisdiction or direct access ambit. These cases demand the attention of all the Justices and require immediate and intensive engagement.

As the Apex Court, the matters enrolled in the Court typically involve extensive records including numerous sets of pleadings and written submissions and a multitude of parties. The upshot is a substantially greater volume of reading and preparation, compared to other Courts.

Deliberations are equally demanding and protracted. Reaching consensus involves a rigorous process of engagement through successive draft judgments being produced. And where there is dissent, further consideration and rounds of deliberation are often required. Each iteration requires careful reflection, additional research, and refined legal writing. This contributes to the time-intensive nature of the Court's work.

Moreover, the Court must navigate an ever-expanding body of complex jurisprudence. Each judgment requires precise and principled crafting to ensure congruency with precedent.

In fulfilling its role as the final arbiter, the Court continues to break new ground by addressing novel and intricate legal questions at the cutting edge of constitutional law, often involving extensive research and consideration of law and policy beyond the Republic's borders.

#### • The Division of the High Court, Limpopo

Those with accumulated reserved judgments (Civil Cases) in excess of the three (3) months grace period or more, are enjoined to deliver their judgments or face consequence management for their deviation.

#### • The Division of the High Court, Mpumalanga

Judges are overloaded with work and are not able to deal with Reserved Judgments during term and recess period due to preparation of work for the forth coming term. Judges prioritise writing judgments during recess period amidst preparation for the next term.

The Judge President initiated implementation of allocation of Acting Judges for recess duty to allow permanent Judges to finalise the reserved judgments.

#### The Division of the High Court, North West

The reason for the deviation (failure to meet the target): The escalation of reserved judgments in the

Division emanates from a Special Criminal Appeal Project, undertaken in two phases to eradicate the backlog of criminal appeals, which files were discovered in the Office of the Chief Registrar. This necessitated the appointment of additional Judges in an acting capacity to assist with the mammoth project. Despite impressing on the acting Judges, the requirements in Article 10 of the Judicial Code of Conduct, many failed to adhere resulting in the poor performance in dealing with reserved judgments. The problem was also exacerbated by certain permanent Judges not adhering to the Code of Conduct. The increased workload in the Division contributed to the delay in handing down of judgments, as the permanent judges were saddled with an increase in the number of reserved judgments already on hand. The shortage of an adequate number of Judges posts in the Division exacerbates the problem.

• Written notices were sent to the implicated judges. The Judge President, Deputy Judge President and where relevant the Acting Deputy Judge President were tasked to liaise with the implicated Judges to case manage the handing down of the judgments. The intervention resulted in many of the judgments being handed down. Since phase 1 and 2 of the Special Appeals Project, several more appeal files were unearthed in the Office of the Chief Registrar and the administration office under his control. This necessitated a further Special Appeal Project, where more control has been exercised over the handing down of the reserved judgments. There should be a marked improvement in the handing of reserved judgments in future.

#### • The Division of the High Court, Northern Cape

Reasons for deviations:

- An increase in the workload coupled with the serious shortage of Judges contributes significantly to the delay in delivering judgments.
- Inadequate law research capacity.

Measures to mitigate under performance

- Judgments are being delivered during recess periods, with priority given to those reserved the longest, in an attempt to address long outstanding reserved judgments.
- Judges have agreed to continue to work harder outside of working hours to finalise outstanding judgments. Unfortunately, it is almost impossible to give Judges more time to work on their reserved judgments during term by not allocating work to them because of an acute shortage of Judges to handle the increased workload of the Division.

#### • The division of the High Court, Free State

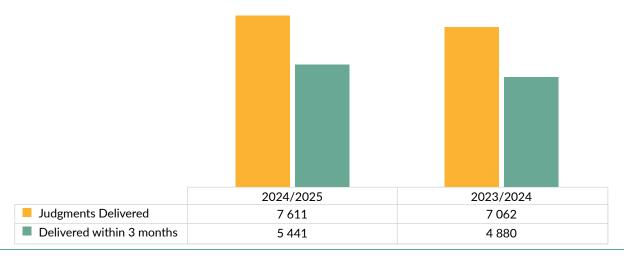
Reasons for deviations:

 An increase in the workload coupled with serious shortage of Judges contributes significantly to the delay in delivering judgments.

Measures to mitigate under performance:

- Judgments are being delivered during recess periods, with priority given to those reserved the longest, in an attempt to address long outstanding reserved judgments.
- Continuous engagements with judges where they undertake to continue to work harder outside of working hours to finalise outstanding judgments.
- Unfortunately, it is almost impossible to give Judges more time to work on their reserved judgments during term by not allocating new work to them because of an acute shortage of Judges to handle the ever-increasing workload of the Division.

Figure 17: Year-on-Year finalised Reserved Judgments by all Superior Courts



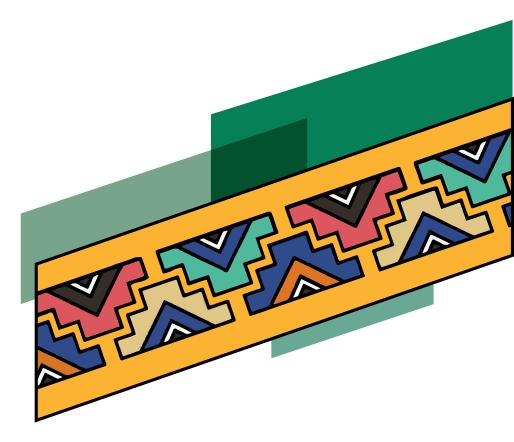
The total number of reserved judgments delivered by all Superior Courts increased by 8% from 7 062 matters during 2023/2024 to 7 611 during 2024/2025. Similarly, the total number of reserved judgments delivered within

three months by all Superior Courts increased by 12% from 4 880 matters during 2023/2024 to 5 441 matters during 2024/2025.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Ten (10) of the 14 Annual Judiciary Performance Plan indicator targets were met in the 2024/2025 financial year. The finalisation of the Constitutional Court matters; the Petitions at the Supreme Court of Appeal and Labour Appeal Court were above the set target. The overall reserved judgment target was met as well, however, there

is noticeable low finalisation rate at the Constitutional Court. The National target for the reduction of Criminal backlogs and finalisation of criminal matters at the High Courts were not met and the reported reasons for that were: cases that involve multiple accused, lengthy trials, and complex matters.



## KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS: MAGISTRATES' COURTS

At a workshop held in November 2018, facilitated by the Judicial Accountability Committee for the Magistrates' Courts, the Leadership of the Magistracy for both the Regional and District Courts identified and adopted indicators, which will allow reporting on the Court Performance at the Magistrates' Courts. This was a significant step in ensuring that the Judiciary accounts to the public for its performance and also allows the Heads of Court to manage Court and judicial performance to ensure the efficient and effective running of the Courts.

Each of the set time periods contained in the indicators for the Regional and District Courts are based on the Norms and Standards set by the Judiciary. The Court performance information for the Magistrates' Courts to be reported on will not include performance indicators for all targets. The reporting tools are still being refined. Further and more comprehensive reporting will take place in the next reporting periods. These future reports will include clearly defined targets based on the analysis of some baseline information obtained from this report.

The tables below depict the KPIs as adopted by the Magistrates for the Regional and District Courts respectively. Magistrates Courts are divided into Regional Courts and District Courts. The Magistrates' Courts also have differing jurisdiction.

#### **REGIONAL COURT KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

- Number of Criminal Trials enrolled per day
- Finalised Criminal Cases per day
- Disposed Criminal Cases per day
- Criminal Cases clearance rate
- Average Criminal Court Hours per day
- Throughput
- Finalised Civil Applications per day
- Finalised Civil Trials per day
- Average Civil Court Hours Per Day
- Percentage of Judgments Reserved

#### DISTRICT COURT KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- Percentage of Criminal Cases finalised
- Percentage of Child Justice Preliminary Inquiries finalised within 30 days after date of first appearance
- Percentage of Maintenance matters finalised within
   90 days from the date of proper service of process

## PERFORMANCE OF THE MAGISTRATES' COURTS

## **Regional Courts Performance Overview**

The Head of a Regional Court, whose area of jurisdiction is based on the provincial borders, is the Regional Court President. The Regional Courts have jurisdiction over more serious category of criminal matters and can hear cases relating to alleged murder, rape, robbery with aggravating circumstances, trafficking in persons, serious commercial crimes and corruption. In terms of the Criminal Law (Sentencing) Amendment Act, 2007 (Act 38 of 2007) a Regional Court can sentence a person who has been found guilty of offences that include murder or rape to imprisonment for life. The Court can also sentence people who have been found guilty of certain offences not falling under minimum sentences such as housebreaking with the intent to commit a crime to a period up to 15 years. A Regional Court can impose a maximum fine of R600 000.

Regional Courts have civil jurisdiction, which includes divorce matters. The Regional Courts have jurisdiction over limited family matters only, namely divorces, interim maintenance and interim custody matters pending the finalisation of divorce cases and civil matters with a monetary value from R200 000 - R400 000.

## **Regional Courts Criminal Court Performance Overview**

Table 13 shows that for the period under review, the Regional Courts utilised a combined total of 65 461 court days and a combined total of 204 326:57 court hours. A total of 41 512 new cases were registered. A total of 40 072 cases were disposed of by the Regional Courts.

**Table 13: Criminal Court Performance Overview** 

Re- gion	Court Days	New Cases	Number Of Trials Final- ised	s 77 & 78	With- drawals	SOR	War- rants of arrest	Actual Court Hours	Aver- age Court Hours	Clear- ance Rate	En- rolled Trials per day	Final- ised Trials per day	Through- put in hours per case
EC	9 970	6 212	3 545	79	1 387	840	559	29 914:54	03:00	103%	2,65	0,36	08:15
FS	4627	3 458	1 636	27	939	464	383	13 400:35	02:53	100%	2,43	0,36	08:03
GP	15 353	9 281	3 959	76	3 453	1 161	966	48 352:31	03:08	104%	2,32	0,26	11:59
KZN	13 830	7 100	3 468	99	1 696	473	456	42 639:29	03:04	87%	1,66	0,26	11:57
LP	4 717	3 649	1 144	19	589	85	179	15 273:51	03:14	55%	2,84	0,25	13:07
MP	3 260	3 263	1 092	23	638	338	477	11 425:54	03:30	79%	4,99	0,34	10:14
NC	2 989	1 134	866	16	428	236	134	9 458:26	03:09	148%	2,22	0,30	10:43
NW	3 771	1 585	711	33	483	232	222	10 036:18	02:39	106%	2,24	0,20	13:29
WC	6 944	5 830	3 013	38	1 672	914	824	23 824:58	03:25	111%	2,64	0,44	07:48
Total	65 461	41 512	19 434	410	11 285	4 743	4 200	204 326:57	03:07	97%	2,43	0,30	10:17

Table 13 reflecting the performance of the Regional Courts, is summarised as follows:

• Average court hours: 03h07. This is below the set Norm and Standard of 4h30

Average clearance rate: 97%

Finalised cases per day: 0.30

Cases disposed per day: 0.61

Cases enrolled per day: 2.43

• Throughput: 10h17

## **Two Year Criminal Court Performance Statistics Comparison**

Table 14: Criminal Trial Comparison: 2024/2025 vs 2023/2024

		APR 2024 - MAR 2025			APR 2023 - MAR 2024					%	Change	
Region	Days	New Cases	Disposed Case	Court Hours	Days	New Cases	Disposed Case	Court Hours	Days	New Cases	Disposed Cases	Court Hours
EC	9 970	6 212	6 410	29 914:54	10 627	6 926	6 826	33 230:11	-6%	-10%	-6%	-10%
FS	4 627	3 458	3 449	13 400:35	4 795	3 275	3 264	13 557:12	-4%	6%	6%	-1%
GP	15 353	9 281	9 615	48 352:31	16 346	9 684	10 500	49 804:25	-6%	-4%	-8%	-3%
KZN	13 830	7 100	6 192	42 639:29	13 393	6 751	5 588	41 350:09	3%	5%	11%	3%
LP	4 717	3 649	2 016	15 273:51	4 985	3 177	2 219	14 953:03	-5%	15%	-9%	2%
MP	3 260	3 263	2 568	11 425:54	3 021	3 480	2 471	10 200:15	8%	-6%	4%	12%
NC	2 989	1 134	1 680	9 458:26	2 898	955	1 663	9 215:49	3%	19%	1%	3%
NW	3 771	1 585	1 681	10 036:18	4 059	1 481	1 926	10 576:29	-7%	7%	-13%	-5%
WC	6 944	5 830	6 461	23 824:58	7 581	5 691	6 252	24 882:34	-8%	2%	3%	-4%
Total	65 461	41 512	40 072	204 326:57	67 705	41 420	40 709	207 770:08	-3%	0%	-2%	-2%

A comparison between the current financial year and the previous financial year indicates that court days decreased by 3%, disposed cases decreased by 2% and court hours decreased by 2%. No changes were noted for the new cases.

## **Regional Courts Civil Court Performance Overview**

**Table 15: Civil Trials Overview** 

Re- gion	Court Days	Appli- cations Enrolled	Appli- cations Finalised	Trials En- rolled	Trials Final- ised	Actual Court Hours	Aver- age Court Hours	% Appli- cations finalised	%Trials Final- ised	Appli- cations finalised per day	Trials finalised per day
EC	1 283	1 598	1 016	4 623	3 162	2 511:58	01:57	64%	68%	0,79	2,46
FS	689	1 207	755	3078	2 237	1 040:25	01:30	63%	73%	1,10	3,25
GP	3 446	6 201	3 660	10 277	6 540	8 118:42	02:21	59%	64%	1,06	1,90
KZN	2 164	5 580	2 562	8 434	4 905	4 845:23	02:14	46%	58%	1,18	2,27
LP	1 617	2 775	1 777	5 679	2 931	3 730:32	02:18	64%	52%	1,10	1,81
MP	1 048	2 217	1 155	5 401	2 207	2 445:00	02:19	52%	41%	1,10	2,11
NC	306	173	146	926	769	377:46	01:14	84%	83%	0,48	2,51
NW	1 154	1 283	702	3 435	2 175	1 547:20	01:20	55%	63%	0,61	1,88
WC	1 219	3 001	1 578	4 966	3 192	2 290:39	01:52	53%	64%	1,29	2,62
Total	12 926	24 035	13 351	46 819	28 118	26 907:45	02:04	56%	60%	1,03	2,18

Table 15 indicates that for the period under review the Regional Court utilised a combined total of 12 926 court days and a combined total of 26 907:45 court hours. Performance of the Regional Courts can be summarised as follows:

- Average court hours: 02h04. This is below the set norm and standard of 04h30
- Finalised civil applications per day: 1.03
- Finalised civil trials per day: 2.18

## Two Year Civil Court Performance Statistics Comparison

Table 16: Civil Trials 2024/2025 vs 2023/2024

Re-		APR 2024	- MAR 20	25		APR 2023 - MAR 2024				% C	hange	
gion	Court Days	Enrolled	Finalised	Court Hours	Court Days	Enrolled	Finalised	Court Hours	Court Days	Enrolled	Finalised	Court Hours
EC	1 283	6 221	4 178	2 511:58	1 380	6 886	4 646	2 914:35	-7%	-10%	-10%	-14%
FS	689	4 285	2 992	1 040:25	709	4 417	2 905	922:02	-3%	-3%	3%	13%
GP	3 446	16 478	10 200	8 118:42	3 948	17 644	10 918	7 665:03	-13%	-7%	-7%	6%
KZN	2 164	14 014	7 467	4 845:23	2 351	16 351	8 917	5 568:53	-8%	-14%	-16%	-13%
LP	1 617	8 454	4 708	3 730:32	1 677	7 356	3 810	3 363:45	-4%	15%	24%	11%
MP	1 048	7 618	3 362	2 445:00	1 174	7 716	3 641	2 626:19	-11%	-1%	-8%	-7%
NC	306	1 099	915	377:46	317	963	713	363:50	-3%	14%	28%	4%
NW	1 154	4 718	2 877	1 547:20	1 070	4 889	2 885	1 734:40	8%	-3%	0%	-11%
WC	1 219	7 967	4 770	2 290:39	1 313	9 518	5 613	2 873:33	-7%	-16%	-15%	-20%
Total	12 926	70 854	41 469	26 907:45	13 939	75 740	44 048	28 032:40	-7%	-6%	-6%	-4%

A comparison of the current financial year with the previous financial year indicates that the Court days decreased by 7%, enrolled cases decreased 2%, Court hours decreased by 4% and finalised cases decreased by 6%.

## Case Flow Blockage/ Challenges

Several factors contributed towards case flow blockages. These include the unavailability of stakeholders, the unavailability of Court rooms, defective Court recording equipment and intermediary systems, load shedding, natural disasters, and bad / adverse weather conditions, among others. Below is an indication of the blockages / challenges experienced per key stakeholder.

Table 17: Case flow blockages per stakeholder

Stakeholders	EC	FS	GP	KZN	LP	MP	NW	NC	WC	Total	%
Prosecution	1021	359	900	984	457	377	425	357	369	5 249	15%
Legal Aid SA	754	225	1257	890	460	438	588	195	278	5 085	15%
Private Practitioner	883	243	928	563	568	442	483	183	322	4 615	13%
Accused Person	1085	238	624	688	455	301	369	187	292	4 239	12%
Witness	888	207	730	709	264	173	261	194	398	3 824	11%
Other	946	67	403	441	158	397	174	166	263	3 015	9%
DoJ &CD (infrastructure)	374	182	621	517	108	205	336	73	75	2 491	7%
SAPS	619	84	347	235	137	149	226	52	92	1 941	6%
DoJ&CD (Personnel) and Other	323	85	461	219	63	120	171	90	125	1 657	5%
Judiciary	222	114	327	247	89	101	115	64	85	1 364	4%
Multiple Parties	128	26	91	78	82	4	19	22	23	473	1%
Social Development	61	9	93	20	43	19	19	22	39	325	1%
Correctional Services	66	12	48	35	24	26	14	3	12	240	1%
Department of Health	80	1	14	33	6	2	10	15	2	163	0%
Parties	8		30		28	3	7		2	78	0%
Department of Home Affairs			1							1	0%
Total	7 458	1 852	6 875	5 659	2 942	2 757	3 217	1 623	2 377	34 760	
%	21%	5%	20%	16%	8%	8%	9%	5%	7%		

For the period under review the Regional Courts blockages/challenges experienced can be summarised as follows: Prosecution (15%), Legal Aid (15%), Private Practitioner (13%) Accused person (12%) and Witness (11%).

### **Reserved Judgments**

The Norms and Standards state that judgments, in both civil and criminal matters, should generally not be reserved without a fixed date of handing down. Every effort shall be made to hand down judgments no later than three (3) months after the last hearing. Generally, no judgments are reserved for longer than three (3) months from the date of last hearing by the Regional Courts.

#### Conclusion

The Judicial Officers of the Regional Courts remain committed to accounting through their work and judgments as the Courts are open to the public. Strides have been made to produce an annual report for the Regional Courts. The Judiciary continues to put measures in place to continuously monitor the performance of the Courts and ensure that any case flow blockages are resolved as soon as possible. All Judicial Officers are enjoined to take pro-active stance to invoke all relevant legislation to avoid lengthy periods of incarceration of accused persons whilst awaiting trial.

#### **District Courts Court Performance Overview**

The District Courts are established through the definition of local geographical limits and per Ministerial regulation, whilst groups of District Courts are joined together to create Administrative Regions for administrative purposes. Each Administrative Region has a Chief Magistrate who is the Head of Administrative Region and reports on the Court performance for all the District Courts clustered in their specific Region. District Courts have jurisdiction over all criminal matters except the trial hearings of attempted murder, murder, treason, rape and terrorism. The District Courts also have, amongst other, exclusive jurisdiction over preliminary inquiries in terms of the Child Justice Act, 2008 (Act 75 of 2008).

Furthermore, District Courts have jurisdiction on civil matters up to a value of R200 000 and also deal with family law cases ranging from protection orders for domestic violence and harassment as well as children's Courts and maintenance matters.

The collection and collation of the performance information of the Magistrates' Courts relies on the Integrated Case Management System modules and the Court Recording Technology system (for Court sitting hours), which the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJ&CD) provides in terms of their mandate to provide administrative support to the Lower Courts.

At a meeting held on 15 August 2023, the Heads of the Administrative Regions of the District Courts resolved that as a result of, inter alia, the ongoing ICT challenges in the DoJ&CD, the statistical information for Criminal matters would be extracted from the Magistrate's monthly Judicial return submissions (MC 15 tool). This decision was reconfirmed by the Heads of the Administrative Regions of the District Courts during the financial year under review. It is highlighted that this statistical information is not a proper reflection of the Judicial Performance Indicators for District Courts based on the Norms and Standards.

The challenges with DoJ&CD data provided for domestic violence and harassment applications as well as children's Court matters as previously reported, still remains. They cite a variety of challenges which has given rise to the total number of cases and applications not having been captured completely on the system and that relates to the incompleteness of the statistics provided.

The performance information in relation to Child Justice preliminary inquiries and Maintenance matters are released as the completeness of the data is within the purview of the Departmental Annual Performance plan indicators and readiness for audit by the Auditor-General is established. The Maintenance data is based on only 240 Courts.

The Department received an unqualified audit for the 2024/2025 performance cycle.

Table 18: Percentage of Criminal Cases finalised

Administrative Region	Cases Brought Forward	New Cases Enrolled	Re-enrolled Cases	Total Caseload	Total Cases Disposed	Percentage Finalised
Administrative Region 01 (Eastern Cape A) Port Elizabeth	15 298	137 808	9 045	162 151	150 555	93%
Administrative Region 02 (Eastern Cape B) Mthatha	6 391	32 875	4 968	44 234	37 779	85%
Administrative Region 03 (Free State A) Bloemfontein	5 346	30 597	1 303	37 246	31 520	85%
Administrative Region 04 (Free State B) Welkom	5 483	54 490	5 415	65 388	59 791	91%
Administrative Region 05 (Gauteng) Pretoria	24 776	691 153	28 860	744 789	721 615	97%
Administrative Region 05A (Gauteng) Johannesburg	2 929	25 858	1 496	30 283	26 879	89%
Administrative Region 06 (KwaZulu-Natal A) Durban	16 111	152 708	21 242	190 061	175 954	93%
Administrative Region 07 (KwaZulu-Natal B) Pietermaritzburg	6 269	98 850	1 434	106 553	100 093	94%
Administrative Region 08 (Mpumalanga) Mbombela	6 131	254 184	26 805	287 120	279 012	97%
Administrative Region 09 (Northwest) Mmabatho	9 148	175 133	2 790	187 071	178 288	95%
Administrative Region 10 (Northern Cape) Kimberley	5 253	27 795	3 947	36 995	31 524	85%
Administrative Region 11 (Limpopo) Polokwane	9 801	197 396	5 002	212 199	199 838	94%
Administrative Region 12 (Western Cape A) Cape Town	19 461	402 706	14 666	436 833	404 673	93%
Administrative Region 13 (Western Cape B) Wynberg	28 392	542 069	17 996	588 457	555 592	94%
Grand Total	160 789	2 823 622	144 969	3 129 380	2 953 113	94%

<sup>\*</sup> Notes: Total caseload = Outstanding Cases Brought Forward as at 1 April 2024 + New Cases Enrolled (1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025) + Re-enrolled Cases (1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025)

Performance data unaudited.

In the absence of Integrated Case Management System (ICMS) statistics, note the available data source of the MC 15 tool, which is limited as it was not intended to be a case flow management tool for Judicial Indicator purposes. All disposed of case data is thus reflected and it does not differentiate trial matter timelines as per the Judicial Norms and Standards.

As per the above table the performance of the District Courts as per the Administrative Regions can be summarised as follows:

• Average criminal cases finalised: 94%.

Noteworthy is that the administrative challenges with regard to support of the Courts for essential services such as the Court recording system, language interpretation services and tools of trade in the form of laptops and printers has an impact on the case finalisation rate. The continuous power and water outages impact directly on the functioning of the District Courts.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Disclaimer

Table 19: Percentage Child Justice preliminary investigations finalised within 30 days of date of first appearance

Administrative Region	Exceeding 30 Days	Within 30 Days	Grand Total	% Finalised Within 30 Days
Administrative Region 01 (Eastern Cape A) Port Elizabeth	20	692	742	93%
Administrative Region 02 (Eastern Cape B) Mthatha	58	284	352	81%
Administrative Region 03 (Free State A) Bloemfontein	189	369	558	66%
Administrative Region 04 (Free State B) Welkom	30	383	413	93%
Administrative Region 05 (Gauteng) Pretoria	68	127	195	65%
Administrative Region 05A (Gauteng) Johannesburg	514	816	1 331	61%
Administrative Region 06 (KwaZulu-Natal A) Durban	37	804	843	95%
Administrative Region 07 (KwaZulu-Natal B) Pietermaritzburg	36	663	699	95%
Administrative Region 08 (Mpumalanga) Mbombela	151	317	468	68%
Administrative Region 09 (North West) Mmabatho	87	389	476	82%
Administrative Region 10 (Northern Cape) Kimberley	36	326	362	90%
Administrative Region 11 (Limpopo) Polokwane	204	678	882	77%
Administrative Region 12 (Western Cape A) Cape Town	118	1 368	1 487	92%
Administrative Region 13 (Western Cape B) Wynberg	227	2 432	2 659	91%
Grand Total	1 805	9 648	11 467	84%

<sup>\*</sup>Performance data audited at DoJ&CD

The DoJ&CD ICMS on Child Justice statistics, which is the available data source used for reporting does not cover all the Magistrate Courts, as it was not piloted and implemented in all Courts.

As per the above table the performance of the District Courts as per the Administrative Regions can be summarised as follows:

• Average Child Justice preliminary inquiries finalised within 30-day period: 84%

The plight of the vulnerable children in conflict with the law is a priority so as to protect the interests of the child and is evidenced from the speedy finalisation of these matters. Administrative Region O6 (KwaZulu-Natal A) Durban has a high percentage (95%) of finalised cases as compared to the other Administrative Regions. Administrative Region O5A (Gauteng) Johannesburg has a low percentage (61%) of cases finalised within the 30-day period.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Disclaimer

Table 20: Percentage Maintenance matters finalised within 90 days from date of proper service of process.

Administrative Region	Exceeding 90 Days	Within 90 Days	Grand Total	% Finalised Within 90 Days
Administrative Region 1 (Eastern Cape A) Port Elizabeth	517	2 936	3 458	85%
Administrative Region 2 (Eastern Cape B) Mthatha	119	1 198	1 321	91%
Administrative Region 3 (Free State A) Bloemfontein	79	1 565	1 646	95%
Administrative Region 4 (Free State B) Welkom	174	1 763	1 942	91%
Administrative Region 5 (Gauteng) Pretoria	445	2 588	3 038	85%
Administrative Region 5A (Gauteng) Johannesburg	750	5 751	6 518	88%
Administrative Region 6 (KwaZulu-Natal A) Durban	282	2 999	3 287	91%
Administrative Region 7 (KwaZulu Natal B) Pietermaritzburg	239	1 235	1 482	83%
Administrative Region 8 (Mpumalanga) Mbombela	340	3 975	4 329	92%
Administrative Region 9 (North West) Mmabatho	897	5 211	6 137	85%
Administrative Region 10 (Northern Cape) Kimberley	173	1 663	1 842	90%
Administrative Region 11 (Limpopo) Polokwane	686	9 116	9 816	93%
Administrative Region 12 (Western Cape A) Cape Town	264	1 715	1 980	87%
Administrative Region 13 (Western Cape B) Wynberg	773	3 555	4 332	82%
Grand Total	5 738	45 270	51 128	89%

<sup>\*</sup> Performance data audited at DoJ&CD

The DoJ&CD ICMS on Maintenance statistics, which is the available data source used for reporting, does not cover all the Magistrate Courts, as it was piloted and not implemented in all Courts.

The DoJ&CD Maintenance Statistics includes all maintenance processes where proper service of process occurs, finalised by both maintenance officials and Magistrates.

As per the above table the performance of the District Courts as per the Administrative Regions can be summarised as follows:

 Average percentage of Maintenance matters finalised within a 90-day period: 89%

The high finalisation rate can be attributed to the commitment to deal speedily with matters that protect the interests of the children. The indicator measures the finalisation from date of proper service and thus exclude the matters where there are challenges in the tracing of the respondents.

#### Conclusion

The Judicial Officers of the District Courts remain committed to account through their caseloads for the reporting of their judicial performance, towards ensuring access to justice for all.

The DoJ&CD has committed to rolling out fiber connections to all the Courts to ensure stability on

the ICT systems and has indicated that there are plans to improve on a fresh new data capturing tool where the District Court Judiciary will be consulted. There is an improvement plan commitment to ensure that all statistics from 01 April 2023 to the current date are complete and maintained thereafter, through an initiative that will see supervisors and data capturers to affect that day's capturing before the workday closes.

Monthly reporting is expected, which will enable the District Court Judicial Officers to engage more regularly with the data to ensure the veracity thereof through judicial oversight going forward.

The high dependency on stakeholders within the Court environment has a negative impact on efficient case flow management. The respective District Efficiency and Enhancement Committees DEEC and their Provincial Efficiency and Enhancement Committee (PEEC are the case flow structures that strive to improve stakeholder relations to address the blockages in the system to enhance Court efficiency.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Disclaimer



### JUDICIAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The South African Judicial Education Institute (SAJEI) was established in order to promote the independence, impartiality, dignity, accessibility and effectiveness of the Courts through continuing judicial education as provided for in the South African Judicial Education Institute Act, 2008 (Act 14 of 2008). The Institute commenced with training in January 2012.

The Institute is led by a Council consisting of the following members:

- The Chief Justice as Chairperson, the Deputy Chief Justice as Deputy Chairperson;
- the Minister's or his nominee;
- a Judge of the Constitutional Court designated by the Chief Justice after consultation with the Judges of the Constitutional Court;
- a Judge or any other person designated by the Judicial Service Commission from amongst its ranks;
- the President of the Supreme Court of Appeal;
- two Judges President and two other Judges, at least one of whom must be a woman, designated by the Chief Justice after consultation with the Judges President:
- five Magistrates designated by the Magistrates' Commission, and of whom at least two must be women and two must be Regional Court Magistrates;
- a Judge who has been discharged from active service;
- the Chief Executive Officer of SAJEI;
- one advocate designated by the General Council of the Bar of South Africa;
- one attorney designated by the Law Society of South Africa:
- two university teachers of law designated by the South African Law Deans Association:
- two other members who are not involved in the administration of justice, designated by the Minister after consultation with the Chief Justice; and
- one traditional leader designated by the National House of Traditional Leaders.

In terms of section 5 of the SAJEI Act the functions of the Institute are:

- a. to establish, develop, maintain and provide judicial education and professional training for judicial officers:
- b. to provide entry level education and training for aspiring judicial officers to enhance their suitability for appointment to judicial office;
- c. to conduct research into judicial education and professional training and to liaise with other judicial education and professional training institutions, persons and organisations in connection with the performance of its functions;
- d. to promote, through education and training, the quality and efficiency of services provided in the administration of justice in the Republic;
- e. to promote the independence, impartiality, dignity, accessibility and effectiveness of the Courts; and
- f. to render such assistance to foreign judicial institutions and Courts as may be agreed upon by the Council.

For the year under review, SAJEI conducted 141 Judicial education courses against the annual target of 120. SAJEI exceeded the set-target primarily because of the compulsory month-long training of newly appointed District Court Magistrates. Although connectivity issues remains a challenge, 71 of the 141 courses were conducted virtually in view of budget constraints.

To give effect to section 5(b) of the SAJEI Act, 2008 (Act 14 of 2008), the institute successfully continued phase two of the flagship programme on Brigitte Mabandla Aspirant Women Judges. The participants consisted of Advocates, Attorneys, Magistrates and an Academic. In addition, one session for Aspirant Judges (inclusive of both male and female participants). This financial year also marks the biggest session for Aspirant Regional Court Magistrates, attended by 309 participants and it was conducted over a period of six (6) Saturdays to ensure a bigger pool of participants.

A total of 103 newly appointed District Court Magistrates underwent training during the period under review at the newly relaunched Brigitte Mabandla Justice College.

In addition, courses dealing with Domestic Violence, Gender-Based Violence, and Femicide continues annually. A Judicial Quality Assessment course for District Court Magistrates was attended by 43 participates under the leadership Chief Magistrates.

The annual Judges Seminar was held during July 2024 over a five-day period and attended by 108 Judges. The participants included Judges from Botswana, Eswatini and Zimbabwe. Some of the most pertinent topics included in the sessions were Judicial Independence and Accountability, Judgment Writing, Judicial Wellness, Al and ChatGPT and other commercial issues.

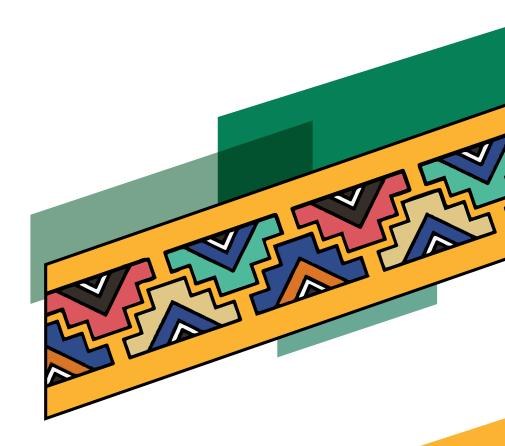
Furthermore, specifically tailored programmes on the new Labour and Labour Appeals Court Rules, Diversity and Inclusion as well as Equality Court Skills were presented for Judges.

SAJEI continues to support Foreign Judicial Institutions and hosted a Regional Round Table on Integrating Financial Aspects of Organised Crime into Judicial Curricula, an African Judicial webinar on Climate Change Litigation and a webinar on The Future of Artificial Intelligence in African Elections.

The summarised breakdown of workshops and number of delegates is indicated in the table:

**Table 21: Summarised Training Data** 

NUMBER OF COURSES	DELEGATES	NUMBER OF DELEGATES
4	Judges	194
1	Aspirant Judges	54
1	Aspirant Women Judges	19
3	Regional Court Magistrates	88
1	Aspirant Regional Court Magistrates	309
131	District Court Magistrates	3 398
3	Regional and District Court Magistrates	184
3	Support to Foreign Judicial Institutions	135
1	Newly Appointed District Court Magistrates	103
148	TOTAL	4 484





PART F

## JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS AND RETIREMENTS

#### JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

In terms of section 174(6) of the Constitution, the President appoints Judges of all Superior Courts on the advice of the Judicial Service Commission (JSC). In the case of Justices of the Constitutional Court, the JSC is required to submit to the President a list of candidates with three (3) names more than the number of appointments to be made, where after the President appoints the Justices from the list as Head of the National Executive after consulting the Chief Justice and the leaders of parties represented in the National Assembly.

During the period under review, 33 vacancies were recorded in the Superior Courts in respect of which the Commission had to interview candidates and advise the President on candidates to appoint as Judges. Of these vacancies, the Commission advised the President to appoint 27 candidates. Following the Commission's recommendations, the President, acting in terms of section 174(6) appointed all twenty-seven.

Table 22: Judges appointed during the period 01 April 2024 - 31 March 2025

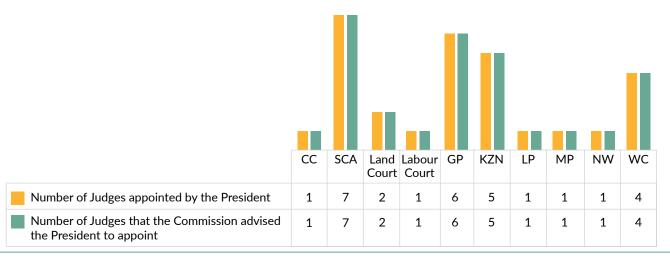
Court	The names of candidates the Commission advised the President to appoint	Judges appointed by the President
Constitutional Court (One vacancy)	The Commission decided not to recommend any of the candidates to the President.	The Commission decided not to recommend any of the candidates to the President.
Supreme Court of Appeal (Six vacancies)	<ul> <li>Judge R M Keightley</li> <li>Judge J E Smith</li> <li>Judge D N Unterhalter</li> <li>Judge E D Baartman</li> <li>Judge P Coppin</li> <li>Judge P A Koen</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Judge R M Keightley</li> <li>Judge J E Smith</li> <li>Judge D N Unterhalter</li> <li>Judge E D Baartman</li> <li>Judge P Coppin</li> <li>Judge P A Koen</li> </ul>
Electoral Court (One vacancy Judge-Member)	The Commission decided not to recommend any of the candidates to the President.	The Commission decided not to recommend any of the candidates to the President.
Land Court (Judge President)	Judge Z Carelse	Judge Z Carelse
Land Court (Deputy Judge President)	Judge S J Cowan	Judge S J Cowan
Labour Court (Judge President)	Judge E Molahleli	Judge E Molahleli
Eastern cape division of the High Court, Mthatha (One vacancy)	The Commission advised that no appointment be made at this stage	The Commission advised that no appointment be made at this stage
Gauteng Division of the High Court (Six vacancies)	<ul> <li>Prof W E J du Plessis</li> <li>Adv E C Labuschagne SC</li> <li>Adv S A B Mahomed</li> <li>Mr M S Makamu</li> <li>Judge G N Moshoana</li> <li>Adv R B Mkhabela</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Prof W E J du Plessis</li> <li>Adv E C Labuschagne SC</li> <li>Adv S A B Mahomed</li> <li>Mr M S Makamu</li> <li>Judge G N Moshoana</li> <li>Adv R B Mkhabela</li> </ul>

Court	The names of candidates the Commission advised the President to appoint	Judges appointed by the President
KwaZulu Natal Division of the High Court (Seven vacancies)	<ul> <li>Judge Z P Nkosi (Deputy</li> <li>Judge President)</li> <li>Adv M M Chithi</li> <li>Adv G M Harrison</li> <li>Adv S Jikela SC</li> <li>Adv R Singh</li> <li>The JSC further advised that no appointment be made to fill the remaining two vacancies.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Judge Z P Nkosi (Deputy</li> <li>Judge President)</li> <li>Adv M M Chithi</li> <li>Adv G M Harrison</li> <li>Adv S Jikela SC</li> <li>Adv R Singh</li> <li>The JSC further advised that no appointment be made to fill the remaining two vacancies.</li> </ul>
Limpopo Division of the High Court, Thohoyandou (One vacancy)	Ms J T Ngobeni	Ms J T Ngobeni
Mpumalanga Division of the High Court (Deputy Judge President)	Judge T V Ratshibvumo	Judge T V Ratshibvumo
North West Division of the High Court (One vacancy)	Mr A Reddy	Mr A Reddy
Western Cape Division of the High Court (Judge President and four vacancies)	<ul> <li>Judge N Mabindla-Boqwana (Judge President)</li> <li>Adv M Holderness</li> <li>Ms M Pangarker</li> <li>Ms N E Ralarala</li> <li>The JSC advised that no appointment be made to fill the remaining vacancy</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Judge N Mabindla-Boqwana (Judge President)</li> <li>Adv M Holderness</li> <li>Ms M Pangarker</li> <li>Ms N E Ralarala</li> <li>The JSC advised that no appointment be made to fill the remaining vacancy</li> </ul>

During the period under review, the Commission further interviewed Deputy Chief Justice M M L Maya for the position of Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa. Following her interview, the Commission resolved that Justice Maya was suitable for appointment as the Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa. The President of the Republic of South Africa subsequently appointed Justice Maya, with effect from 01 September 2024 as the Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa, after consulting the Commission. The Commission further interviewed Justice D H Zondi for the position of Deputy President of the SCA.

Following his interview, the Commission resolved that Justice Zondi was suitable for appointment as the Deputy President of the SCA. The President of the Republic subsequently appointed Justice Zondi, with effect from 11 July 2024 as the Deputy President of the SCA, after consulting the Commission

Figure 18: Graph illustrating the Judges that the Commission advised the President to appoint in terms of Section 174(6) inclusive of the Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa and the Deputy President of the SCA



# RACE AND GENDER OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN JUDICIARY SUPERIOR COURTS

## RACE AND GENDER PROFILE OF JUDGES APPOINTED DURING THE PERIOD 01 APRIL 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2025

Twenty-nine (29) Judges were appointed by the President of the Republic of South Africa during the period under review, inclusive of the Chief Justice of the Republic and the Deputy President of the SCA. The gender composition of the newly appointed Judges comprised 14 females, representing 48%, and 15 males, representing 52%. The gender composition is depicted in the figure below:



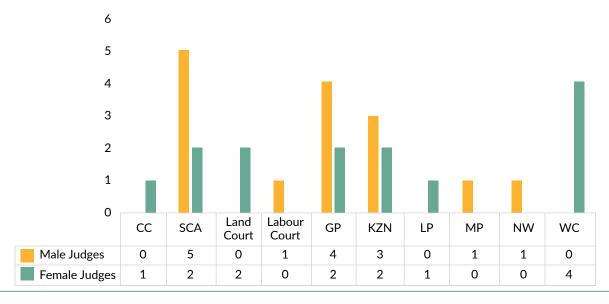


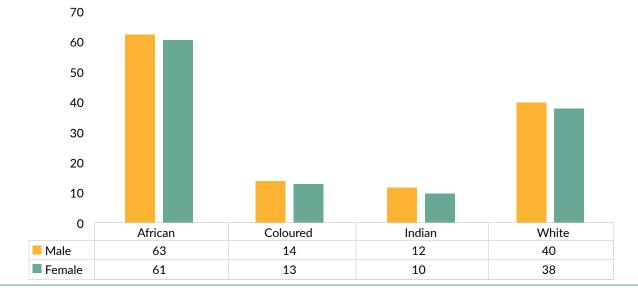
Table 23: Number of Judges appointed during the period 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 specifying gender and race

COURT	NUMBER OF CANDIDATES THE JSC ADVISED THE PRESIDENT TO APPOINT	NUMBER OF JUDGES APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT	NUMBER OF FEMALES & RACE	NUMBER OF MALES & RACE
Constitutional Court (Chief Justice)	1	1	1 (African)	0
Supreme Court of Appeal	7	7	1 (Coloured) 1 (White)	1 (African) 2 (Coloured) 2 (White)
Land Court	2	2	1 (Coloured) 1 (White)	0
Labour Court	1	1	0	1 (White)
Gauteng Division of the High Court	6	6	1 (Indian) 1 (White)	3 (African) 1 (White)
KwaZulu-Natal Division of the High Court	5	5	1 (African) 1 (Indian)	2 (African) 1 (White)

COURT	NUMBER OF CANDIDATES THE JSC ADVISED THE PRESIDENT TO APPOINT	NUMBER OF JUDGES APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT	NUMBER OF FEMALES & RACE	NUMBER OF MALES & RACE
Limpopo Division of the High Court	1	1	1 (African)	0
Mpumalanga Division of the High Court	1	1	O	1 (African)
North West Division of the High Court	1	1	0	1 (Coloured)
Western Cape Division of the High Court	4	4	2 (African) 1 (Indian) 1 (Coloured)	0
Total	29	29	14	15

Following the three sittings of the Commission during the reporting period and the subsequent appointments made by the President, the Judiciary, as at 31 March 2025, was made up of 251 Judges. The racial overview of all permanent Judges is illustrated in the figure below:

Figure 20: The racial overview of permanent Judges during the period under review



The table below illustrates the racial overview of permanent Judges during the period under review:

Table 24: The racial overview of permanent Judges per Superior Court:

Superior Count	AFI	RICAN	COLOURED		INDIAN		WHITE		TOTAL
Superior Court	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	IOIAL
Constitutional Court	2	3	1	1	1	0	1	0	9
Supreme Court of Appeal	5	6	3	2	1	1	4	3	25
Competition Appeal Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Eastern Cape Local Division (Bhisho)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4
Eastern Cape Local Division (Gqeberha)	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	7
Eastern Cape Division (Makhanda)	2	1	0	0	2	0	3	0	8
Eastern Cape Local Division (Mthatha)	2	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	7
Free State Division (Bloemfontein)	4	3	1	0	0	1	2	4	15
Gauteng Division (Pretoria)	10	13	0	0	0	2	9	8	42
Gauteng Local Division (Johannesburg)	10	4	1	1	3	2	6	7	34
KwaZulu-Natal Division (Pietermaritzburg)	4	5	0	0	2	0	2	1	14
KwaZulu-Natal Local Division (Durban)	3	2	1	1	0	2	2	1	12
Labour Appeal Court	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	3
Labour Court	3	3	0	1	1	0	1	2	11
Land Court	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Limpopo Division (Polokwane)	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	6
Limpopo Local Division (Thohoyandou)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Mpumalanga Division, (Mbombela)	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Mpumalanga Local Division, (Middelburg)	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Northern Cape Division, (Kimberley)	2	2	0	1	0	0	1	1	7
North West Division (Mahikeng)	0	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	6
Western Cape Division (Cape Town)	5	6	6	5	1	1	2	4	30
TOTAL	63	61	14	13	12	10	40	38	251
%	25%	24%	6%	5%	5%	4%	16%	15%	100%
TOTAL		124		27		22		78	251
%		19%	1	1%		9%	3	31%	100%

Table 25: Race and Gender Composition of all Judges

RACE	AFRICAN		COLOURED		INDIAN		WHITE		TOTAL
GENDER	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	
TOTAL	63	61	14	13	12	10	40	38	251
%	25%	24%	6%	5%	5%	4%	16%	15%	100%

## **MAGISTRATES' COURTS**

During the period under review, a total of 227 Magistrates were appointed, of which 28% (64 of 227) were African males, 32% (72 of 227) were African females, 3% (7 of 227) were Indian males, 7% (15 of 227) were Indian females, 4% (8 of 227) were Coloured males, 8% (19 of 227) were Coloured females, 7% (16 of 227) were White males and 11% (26 of 227) were White females.

The race and gender composition of the Magistrates' Courts establishment is made up of 28% African females (448 of 1,717), 23% African males (402 of 1,717), 12% White females (204 of 1,717) and 11% White males (190 of 1,717).

Table 26: Race and Gender Composition of all Magistrates

RACE AND GENDER BREAK									
POST CLASS	African Male	African Female	Indian Male	Indian Female	Coloured Male	Coloured Female	White Male	White Female	Total
Regional Court President	4	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	9
Regional Magistrate	73	87	13	25	19	17	43	34	311
Chief Magistrate	1	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	14
Senior Magistrate	22	21	7	11	7	2	10	13	91
Magistrate	302	372	57	82	89	99	136	155	1 292
Grand Total	402	488	78	119	116	120	190	204	1 717
Percentages	23%	28%	5%	7%	7%	7%	11%	12%	100%

SUMMARY:									
POST CLASS	Total Black [Generic] Male	Total White Male	Grand Total Males [All Races]	Total Black [Generic] Female	Total White Female	Grand Total Females [All Races]	Grand Total Black [Generic]	Grand Total White	Total
Regional Court President	4	0	4	4	1	5	8	1	9
Regional Magistrate	105	43	148	129	34	163	234	77	311
Chief Magistrate	3	1	4	9	1	10	12	2	14
Senior Magistrate	36	10	46	32	13	45	68	23	91
Magistrate	448	136	584	553	155	708	1 001	291	1 292
Grand Total	596	190	786	727	204	931	1 323	394	1 717
Percentages	35%	11%	46%	42%	12%	54%	77%	23%	100%

**Table 27: Race and Gender Composition** 

	BLACK (INCLUDING COLOURED & INDIAN FEMALES)	WOMEN (ALL RACES)	LIVING WITH DISABILITIES
TOTAL	727	931	0

## **RETIREMENTS**

For the current reporting period, the following Judges were discharged from active service:

Table 28: Judges discharged from active	service	
INITIALS AND SURNAME	RANK	DISCHARGED DATE
CONSTITUTIONAL COURT		
R M M Zondo	Chief Justice	01 September 2024
SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL		
T R Gorven	Justice	21 April 2024
X M Petse	Justice	11 July 2024
EASTERN CAPE DIVISION OF THE HIG	GH COURT	
D Van Zyl	Deputy Judge President	11 January 2025
N G Beshe	Judge	01 February 2025
R E Griffiths	Judge	18 July 2024

GAUTENG DIVISION OF THE HIGH COURT		
H J De Vos	Judge	26 April 2024
H M E Ismail	Judge	01 March 2025
M A Makume	Judge	21 January 2025

KWAZULU-NATAL DIVISION OF THE HIGH COURT		
K Pillay	Judge	01 April 2024
R A K Vahed	Judge	05 February 2025

WESTERN CAPE DIVISION OF THE HIGH COURT		
P A L Gamble	Judge	10 November 2024

LABOUR COURT		
H Rabkin-Naicker	Judge	13 May 2024

For the current reporting period, the following Magistrates were discharged from active service:

Table 29: Magistrates discharged from active service

INITIALS AND SURNAME	RANK	DISCHARGED DATE
J L Moshesh	Magistrate	30 April 2024
M I Khan	Magistrate	30 April 2024
I B J Van Der Merwe	Magistrate	31 May 2024
M S Radasi	Regional Magistrate	31 May 2024
C H Brincker	Magistrate	30 June 2024
J Jasson	Magistrate	30 June 2024
C C Kruger	Regional Magistrate	30 June 2024
M C Mokgobo	Senior Magistrate	30 June 2024
M T Gqoboka	Senior Magistrate	30 June 2024
K Maharaj	Magistrate	30 July 2024
K Abba	Magistrate	31 July 2024
N J Ratshibvumo	Regional Magistrate	31 July 2024
C J Goosen	Magistrate	31 July 2024
M D Lekwakwe	Regional Magistrate	31 July 2024
D V H Lakey	Magistrate	30 September 2024
N Mankahla	Magistrate	30 September 2024
M L Lerabe	Magistrate	30 September 2024
V R Ball	Regional Magistrate	30 September 2024
A Mdlalose	Magistrate	30 September 2024
Z C B Mnguni	Regional Magistrate	30 September 2024
S Sonnenberg	Regional Magistrate	31 October 2024
M S Makamu	Regional Magistrate	30 November 2024
M B Ramuthaga	Senior Magistrate	30 November 2024
J A J Fourie	Magistrate	30 November 2024
S B Bakadela	Magistrate	30 November 2024
M I Mathe	Magistrate	31 December 2024
X A Dlulisa	Magistrate	31 December 2024
M H Meyer	Magistrate	31 January 2025
J A Van Zyl	Magistrate	31 January 2025
F S Dyongosi	Magistrate	31 January 2025
J S Stoffberg	Magistrate	28 February 2025
C F Nieuwoudt	Magistrate	28 February 2025
N S Masango	Regional Magistrate	31 March 2025
M S Motala	Regional Magistrate	31 March 2025
F T Msengana	Magistrate	31 March 2025
W van Der Merwe	Regional Magistrate	31 March 2025



PART G

## EXTRA-JUDICIAL POSITIONS HELD BY MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIARY

# EXTRA-JUDICIAL POSITIONS HELD BY MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIARY SUPERIOR COURTS

Table 30: Extra-Judicial Positions held by Members of the Judiciary

INITIALS AND SURNAME	RANK	COURT	POSITION		
Constitutional Court					
M M L Maya	Chief Justice	Constitutional	<ul> <li>Chairperson of the Judicial Service Commission</li> <li>Chairperson: South African Judicial Education Institute</li> <li>Chairperson of the National Efficiency Enhancement Committee</li> <li>Founding Member (2002); Deputy President (2008 - 2010); President 2018 to 2023: South African Chapter of the International Association of Women Judges</li> <li>Chancellor of the University of Mpumalanga: 2021</li> <li>Regional Director: West and Southern Africa; International Association of Women Judges: 2021</li> <li>Member; Duke University [USA] Bolch Judicial Institute Leadership Council: 2020</li> <li>Board Member; University of Free State Law Faculty: 2020</li> <li>Advisory Board Member; Yearbook of South African Law: 2020</li> <li>Advisory Board Member; South African Law Journal: 2019</li> <li>Board Member; National Bar Examinations Board: 2016</li> <li>Chairperson; South African Law Reform Commission: 2013</li> <li>Member; Commonwealth Association of Law Reform Commissions: 2013</li> <li>Patron; Lawyers Against Violence: 2013</li> <li>Trustee; South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law: 2012</li> </ul>		
Z Tshiqi	Justice	Constitutional Court	<ul> <li>Chairperson of the African Regional Judges' Forum</li> <li>Member of SAJEI Council and the Curriculum and Development Committee</li> </ul>		
SUPREME COU					
M B Molemela	Justice	Supreme Court of Appeal	<ul> <li>Member of South African Chapter of the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) 2008: to date</li> <li>Trustee of the South African Chapter of the International Association of Women Judges (SAC-IAWJ) Trust: 2018 – to date</li> <li>Advisory Board Member: Free State Centre for Human Rights: 2016 – 2018, October 2024 to date</li> <li>Member of the Council of the South African Judicial Training Institute (SAJEI): June 2023 to date</li> <li>Member of the Judicial Services Commission: June 2023 to date</li> </ul>		

INITIALS AND SURNAME	RANK	COURT	POSITION
JORIVAINE			Trustee of a non-profit organisation (Free State Symphony Orchestra;
			Trustee of the Ray Zondo SAC-IAWJ Trust;
			Chairperson of the Rhodes Scholarships for Southern Africa, Academic Associate (Honory Professor) for UNISA
D H Zondi	Justice	Supreme Court	Member of Judicial Conduct Committee of the JSC;
		of Appeal	Member of the Governing Council of the Global Network on Electoral Justice since 2022;
			Member of the Working Group of Africa Electoral Justice Network since 2022.
A Kgoele	Justice	Supreme Court of Appeal	Board Member of the Faculty of Law at University of the Free State
			Trustee at SAC-IAWJ Trust
			Director at SAC-IAWJ
			Board member of the advisory Council of the Bridgette     Mabandla Justice College
F Kathree- Setiloane	Justice	Supreme Court of Appeal	Board member of the National Bar Examination Board of the general Council of the Bar
			Trustee of The Hyde Home Owners Association (Hyde Park Johannesburg)
			Trustee of 111 Ocean View Drive Body Corporate (Greenpoint Cape Town)
GAUTENG DIVI	SION		
D Mlambo	Judge President	Gauteng Division	Mediator: Independent Mediation Services of South Africa (IMSSA), 1991 - 1997
			Trustee: Field Band Foundation, 2001 - 2005
			Chairperson: Legal Aid South Africa, 2002 - 2019
			Judge Moderator: The National Bar Examinations Board of South Africa, 2003 - 2009
			Trustee: Africa Legal Aid, 2008 - 2011
			Chairperson: Expert Group Meetings of the United Nations     Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), meeting that approved     the Draft United Nations (UN) Principles and Guidelines on     Access to Justice in Criminal Justice Systems 2011, which was     subsequently adopted by the UN a year later, 2011
			Chairperson: Judiciary and Administration IT Steering     Committee, since 2012
			Member: International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges, since 2012
			Chairperson: Court of Military Appeals, 2012 - 2025
			Trustee/Board of Directors: International Legal Foundation, since 2013
			Chairperson: Gauteng Provincial Efficiency Enhancement Committee, 2013 - 2025
			Chairperson: UNODC Expert Group Meeting that finalised the revision of the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, now called the Nelson Mandela Rules, 2015

INITIALS AND SURNAME	RANK	COURT	POSITION
			<ul> <li>Member: International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges, since 2016</li> <li>Chairperson: Community Advice South Africa, since 2019</li> <li>Chairperson: Law Reform Commission Sub Committee, 2019 - 2022</li> <li>Editor in Chief: Judiciary Magazine, 2019 - 2023</li> <li>Offices Global Executive Council Member: International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges, since 2020</li> <li>President (Africa Chapter): International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges, since 2020</li> <li>Member: BLMNS Selection Committee (Rhodes Scholarship), 2023 - 2024</li> <li>Member: Judicial Accountability Committee</li> <li>Chairperson: Gauteng Infrastructure Committee</li> </ul>
AC Basson	Judge	Gauteng Division (Pretoria)	<ul> <li>Chairperson: National Court Infrastructure Committee</li> <li>President: Taekwondo Federation Africa</li> <li>Executive board member: Taekwondo Federation</li> </ul>
S Kuny	Judge	Gauteng Local Division (Johannesburg)	Trustee Baily Green Trust
M S Makamu	Judge	Gauteng Local Division (Johannesburg)	Management member of SANCA Horizon Clinic
G Malindi	Judge	Gauteng Local Division (Johannesburg)	Trustee: Nelson Mandela Trust
M Mdalana- Mayisela	Judge	Gauteng Local Division (Johannesburg)	Principal School of Repentance
S C Mia	Judge	Gauteng Local Division (Johannesburg)	<ul><li>Vice President for the SAC-IAWJ</li><li>Provincial Co-Ordinator for the SAC-IAWJ</li></ul>
LT Modiba	Judge	Gauteng Local Division (Johannesburg)	Judge Member of the Electoral Court
T Mudau	Judge	Gauteng Local Division (Johannesburg)	Church Legal Committee member
I Opperman	Judge	Gauteng Local Division (Johannesburg)	Commissioner of the Court of Military Appeals.
R Strydom	Judge	Gauteng Local Division (Johannesburg)	<ul> <li>Trustee and beneficiary of the Opskud Family Trust</li> <li>Director Rean Strydom familie Belegging</li> </ul>
E Van der Schyff	Judge	Gauteng Division (Pretoria)	<ul> <li>Adjunct Professor of Law: University of Venda (UNIVEN)</li> <li>Extraordinary Professor of Law at the North-West University (NWU).</li> </ul>

INITIALS AND SURNAME	RANK	COURT	POSITION
B Wanless	Judge	Gauteng Local Division (Johannesburg)	Board member and Trustee of the Highway Hospice
S Wilson	Judge	Gauteng Local Division (Johannesburg)	Adjunct Professor University of the Witwatersrand
EASTERN CAPE	DIVISION		
S Mbenenge	Judge President	Eastern Cape Division	Member of the Walter Sisulu University Council
G Bloem	Judge	Eastern Cape Division	Chairperson of the Rhodes University Council
A Govindjee	Judge	Eastern Cape Division	Member of the SAJEI Council
FREE STATE DIV	ISION		
N S Daniso	Judge	Free State Division of the High Court	<ul> <li>Member of the African Regional Judges Forum</li> <li>Member of the International Association of Refugee &amp; Migration, African Charter</li> </ul>
KWAZULU-NATA	AL DIVISION		
T P Poyo- Dlwati	Judge President	KwaZulu-Natal Division	President: South African Chapter of International Association of Women Judges (SAC-IAWJ)
			Chairperson for the Rhodes Scholarship for Southern Africa - KZN (2023 to date)
			Leader of the Bliss Couples Fellowship at Maritzburg Christian     Church
			Editor of the Judiciary Newsletter
S R Balton	Judge	KwaZulu-Natal Division	<ul><li>Member: R Boodram Consulting</li><li>Member: RBS Brakes CC</li></ul>
			Director: Umhlanga Hindu Society
M R Chetty	Judge	KwaZulu-Natal Division	Legal Resources Centre Trust – former Trustee, now Patron     (Advisory Board Member) 2014 to present
			Foundation for Human Rights, Member of the Supervisory     Board 2021 to present
J I Henriques	Judge	KwaZulu-Natal Division	Council Member of the University of KwaZulu-Natal
M B S Mapisa	Judge	KwaZulu-Natal Division	Member of the University of Limpopo Council from 1 January 2024 to date
R G Mossop	Judge	KwaZulu-Natal Division	Commissioner: Small Claims Court-Durban
E J S Steyn	Judge	KwaZulu-Natal Division	SAJEI since May 2023 to date: - Member of SAJEI EXCO Committee
			Chair of SAJEI HR Committee
			Electoral Court – Acting since 2 May 2024 to 31 December 2025

INITIALS AND SURNAME	RANK	COURT	POSITION
LIMPOPO DIVIS	SION		
M Naude- Odendaal	Judge	Limpopo Division	<ul> <li>Chairperson of the Tax Board</li> <li>Member of the South African Hunters Association (Soutpansberg Branch)</li> </ul>
MPUMALANGA	DIVISION		
S S Mphahlele	Judge President	Mpumalanga Division	President of the South African Chapter of the International Association of Women Judges (SAC-IAWJ)
NORTHERN CA	PE DIVISION		
V Phatshoane	Deputy Judge President	Northern Cape Division	Chairperson of the Sol Plaatjie University
LG Lever	Judge	Northern Cape Division	<ul> <li>Trustee- Louie Schutee Family Trust- no remuneration received for this position</li> <li>Trustee -D.M. Minchin Testamentary Trust- Term of office comes to an end September or October 2024- no remuneration received for this position</li> <li>Trustee - International Trust - No remuneration received for this position</li> <li>Executor Fathers estate - The estate is handled and being wound up by an attorney as my agent- No remuneration will be taken by me for this office</li> <li>Curator Bonis and Curator Personam for incapacitated mother</li> </ul>
NODTLIMEST	N/ICION		Curator Bonis and Curator Personam for incapacitated mother
T Djadje  WESTERN CAPI	Deputy Judge President	North West Division of the High Court	Member of the International Association of Women Judges
N Mabindla-	Judge	Western Cape	Member of the Scholarship Selection committee
Boqwana	President	Division of the High Court	Member of the Scholarship Selection committee
C Fortuin	Judge	Western Cape Division of the High Court	Chancellor of the Diocese of Saldanha Bay in the Anglican Church of South Africa (ACSA)
L Nuku	Judge	Western Cape Division of the High Court	Director: Black Conveyancers Association Training Academy
V Saldanha	Judge	Western Cape Division of the High Court	<ul> <li>Member of the Advisory Board of Dullah Omar Institute (DOI)</li> <li>University of the Western Cape</li> <li>Trustee of the Albie Sachs Constitutionalism and Rule of Law Trust (ASCAROL)</li> </ul>
K Savage	Judge	Western Cape Division of the High Court	Director of the Southern African Legal Information Institute (SAFLII), A Non-Profit Company (NPC)
LAND COURT			
S Cowen	Deputy Judge President	Land Court	Co-director and 50% Shareholder in a property holding company called Utopia Haven 110 (Pty) Ltd. The company owns a unit in a sectional scheme in North West in a wilderness area.

## EXTRA-JUDICIALPOSITIONSHELDBYMEMBERSOFTHEMAGISTRACY

## **MAGISTRATES' COURTS**

Table 31: Extra-Judicial Positions held by Members of the Magistracy

#### **MAGISTRATES' COURTS**

INITIALS AND SURNAME	RANK	COURT	POSITION
EASTERN CAPE			
Ms S Raphahlelo	Chief Magistrate	Gqeberha	<ul> <li>Member of the Magistrates Commission;</li> <li>Member of the Ethics committee of the Magistrates Commission;</li> <li>Member of the Appointments committee of the Magistrates Commission;</li> <li>Chairperson of the Family Court Forum of the CMF</li> <li>Member of the Criminal Court Forum of the CMF;</li> <li>Member of the Civil Court Forum of the Chief Magistrates' Forum (CMF);</li> <li>Member of EXCO of the Chief Magistrates' Forum (CMF);</li> <li>Member of the Provincial Lower Court Performance Monitoring Committee;</li> <li>Member if the National Committee of DSD foster care management.</li> </ul>
PP Van Vuuren	Senior Magistrate	Makhanda	<ul> <li>Chairperson of the Family, Civil and Criminal Court forums in the region;</li> <li>Member of the National committee of Department of Social Development foster care management;</li> </ul>
Mr N Jeomath	Additional Magistrate	East London	National Treasurer of Judicial Officers Association of South Africa (JOASA)
S Dunywa	Regional Court President	Eastern Cape	Member: Regional and District IT Committee
S Jacobs	Regional Magistrate	Eastern Cape	Secretary: The South African Chapter of the International Association of Women Judges (SAC-IAWJ)
A Mashigo	Regional Magistrate	Eastern Cape	Provincial Co-ordinator: The South African Chapter of the International Association of Women Judges (SAC-IAWJ)
FREE STATE			
A Motlekar	Chief Magistrate	Welkom	<ul> <li>Deputy Chairperson: Executive Committee, Chief Magistrates Forum</li> <li>Chairperson for the Provincial Advisory Committee for the appointment of Sheriffs.</li> <li>Member: Judicial IT Committee Member: Regional and District Judicial IT Committee.</li> </ul>

INITIALS AND SURNAME	RANK	COURT	POSITION
C Parks	Regional Magistrate	Bloemfontein	<ul> <li>Additional Member of (Free State) Provincial Executive Committee of Judicial Officers Association of South Africa (JOASA);</li> <li>Additional Member of (Free State) Provincial Executive Committee of South African Women Lawyers Association (SAWLA).</li> </ul>
B Mahlatsi	Regional Magistrate	Welkom	<ul> <li>Senior Pastor at United Apostolic Gospel Church and Marriage Officer.</li> <li>Executive member of the National Apostolic Council of Churches (NACCSA), as legal advisor without remuneration.</li> </ul>
Z Mbalo	Regional Court President	Bloemfontein	Member of the Magistrates Commission
GAUTENG			
S B Mosaka	Chief Magistrate	Kempton Park	Member of National Intersectoral Committee for Child Justice
M Djaje	Regional Court	Johannesburg	Member: Regional & District IT Committee;
	President		Member: Chairperson of Lower Courts Remuneration Committee (LCRC);
			Member: SAJEI Council
H R Louw	Regional Magistrate	Kagiso	Member of the Lower Courts Remuneration Committee (LCRC)
M S Makamu	Regional Magistrate	Benoni	Member of the Magistrates Commission
I Cox	Regional Magistrate	Benoni	National Secretary of the Association of Rotational Moulders of Southern Africa (ARMSA)
KWAZULU-NAT	TAL		
K G Chetty	Additional Magistrate	Verulam	Trustee- Body Corporate at residence
K Boonzaier	Additional	Verulam	KZN Provincial Portfolio Committee Member
	Magistrate		Member of South African Chapter of the International Association of Women Judges (SAC-IAWJ)
NSZ Ndlovu	Senior Magistrate	Pinetown	Judicial Officers Association of South Africa (JOASA) -     Provincial Executive Committee Additional Member
S Mthethwa	Magistrate	Mtunzini	Judicial Officers Association of South Africa (JOASA) -     Provincial Secretary
M Nhlangulela	Additional Magistrate	Durban	Judicial Officers Association of South Africa (JOASA) -     Provincial Executive Committee
H P Mkhasibe	Senior Magistrate	Durban-PFC	KZN Provincial Coordinator – SAC – IAW
E B Ngubane	Chief Magistrate	Durban	Chairperson of the Judicial Accountability Sub-Committee of the Chief Magistrates' Forum
			Secretary of the Family Court Sub-Committee of the Chief Magistrates' Forum.

INITIALS AND SURNAME	RANK	COURT	POSITION
B Shabalala	Additional Magistrate	Durban	Trustee of eThekwini Community Foundation Trust     (NPO) [Trustees oversee operations of oversight of the     Governance of the NPO for the benefit of the public     without remuneration] as contemplated in Article 14 (4)(a)     of the Code of Judicial Conduct).
LIMPOPO			
C D Ringane	Chief Magistrate	Polokwane	Provincial Chairperson of the Sheriffs Board
JH Wessels	Regional Court President	Limpopo Division	<ul> <li>Member of Rules Board and chairperson of the ADR, Small Claims Court;</li> <li>Committees and chairperson of the Magistrates Court</li> </ul>
			Committee;
			Chairperson of the E-Justice rules & Children's Court Rules task teams;
			Council member, SAJEI;
			Member of JAIT;
			Chairperson: Regional and District Judiciary IT Committee (RDJITC)
			Member of the RCPF (Regional Court Presidents Forum)
			Governance Council member of the Democratic Governance and Rights Unit (DGRU) at UCT Law
			Independent Trustee: Limpopo Society of Advocates (LSOA)
			Pupillage Trust Fund
			Chairperson: REEC (Regional Efficiency Enhancement Committee)
NJ Ratshibvumo	Acting Regional Magistrate	Giyani	Board member, Higher Grace Church
CT Honwana	Regional	Lenyenye	Treasurer: ARMSA National
	Magistrate		Chairperson of Extension 52 Aqua Park working group responsible for bereavements announcements
PV Mudau	Regional Magistrate	Thohoyandou	Treasurer, ARMSA (Association of Regional Magistrates of Southern Africa), Limpopo
			Deacon (member of church council), Mvudi Reformed Church of Southern Africa
MT Kganyago	Regional Magistrate	Nkowankowa	Member of Sodality Catholic Church, Legal Desk
PD Nkuna	Regional	Polokwane	Chairperson: ARMSA Limpopo
	Magistrate		Chairperson – Hoxani Traditional Council (Legal Desk)
A Swanepoel	Regional Magistrate	Seshego	Wellness: ARMSA Limpopo
H Madima	Regional Magistrate	Lephalale	Secretary: ARMSA Limpopo
MO Mahlo	Regional Magistrate	Sekhukhune	Projects: ARMSA Limpopo
JC Maribana	Acting Regional Magistrate	Thabazimbi	Commissioner, Small Claims Court

INITIALS AND SURNAME	RANK	COURT	POSITION
RJ Marais	Acting Regional Magistrate	Groblersdal	Chairperson: Limpopo Biathlon Association
MPUMALANGA			
N Minnie	Regional Magistrate	Witbank	Management Committee of St Joseph's Home for the Aged
N Engelbrecht	Regional Court President	Mpumalanga	National Commission of Correctional Services
NORTH WEST			
JJ lkaneng	Chief Magistrate	Mahikeng	Chairperson of the NW Provincial Advisory Committee for the Appointment of Sheriffs in terms of Regulation 2C of the Regulations Relating to Sheriffs, 1990
T Leshomo	Senior Magistrate	Potchefstroom	Assistant Secretary SAC-IAWJ
NORTHERN CAI	PE		
OM Krieling	Chief Magistrate	Northern Cape	<ul> <li>Chairperson - Chief Magistrates Forum</li> <li>Chairperson - Provincial Advisory Committee for the Appointment of Sheriffs</li> <li>Board Member - Rules Board for Courts of Law</li> </ul>
R Terblanche	Senior	Kimberley	Member of Magistrates Commission
	Magistrate		Member: SAJEI Council
WESTERN CAPE			
E du Toit	Senior Magistrate	Bellville	Chairperson of the Sunnyside Lodge Board (Old Age Home)
I de V Viljoen	Senior Magistrate	Worcester	Chairperson of the Small Claims Court
P Visagie	Magistrate	Goodwood	Provincial Treasurer – Judicial Officers Association of South Africa.
L Jacobs	Magistrate	Hermanus	Provincial Secretary – Judicial Officers Association of South Africa



# PART H

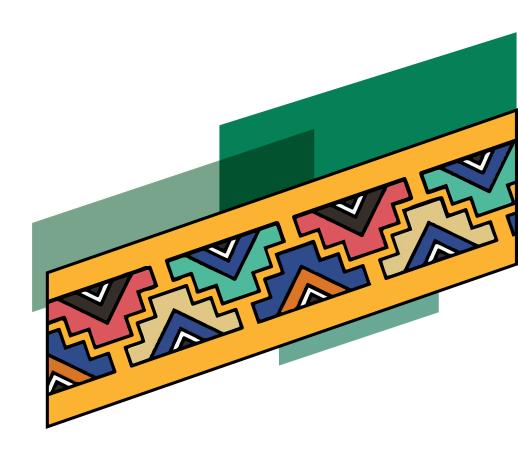
# **IN MEMORIAM**

A dedication to the memory of our departed colleagues

We remember our dearly departed Colleagues, and we thank them and their families for their service to the nation.

SUPERIOR COURTS			
NAME	CAPACITY	DIVISION	DATE DECEASED
GG Hoexter	Justice	Supreme Court of Appeal Appeal	30 April 2024
Y Mokgoro	Justice	Constitutional Court	09 May 2024
L Ackerman	Justice	Constitutional Court	25 May 2024
ND Van der Reyden	Judge	KwaZulu-Natal Durban	12 June 2024
S Gyanda	Judge	KwaZulu-Natal Durban	17 June 2024
S Alkema	Judge	Eastern Cape Mthatha	21 August 2024
ME Kumleben	Justice	Supreme Court of Appeal	01 September 2024
W Heath	Judge	Eastern Cape Bisho	09 October 2024
JF Ludorf	Judge	Eastern Cape Gqeberha	10 October 2024
JA Howard	Judge	KwaZulu-Natal Pietermaritzburg	12 November 2024
NJ Yekiso	Judge	Western Cape Cape Town	24 January 2025

LOWER COURTS			
NAME	CAPACITY	DIVISION	DATE DECEASED
M C Fourie	Magistrate	Free State – Heilbron	15 July 2024
B S Gumede	Regional Magistrate	Free State - Heilbron	17 August 2024
T C Namola	Magistrate	Western Cape Oudtshoorn	11 October 2024



# **ANNEXURES**

### ANNEXURE A: TECHNICAL INDICATOR DESCRIPTION: SUPERIOR COURTS

1. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF MATTERS FINALISED (CONSTITUTIONAL COURT)
Short Definition	The indicator measures the percentage of matters finalised (judgment, granted, removed, withdrawn or dismissed) by the Constitutional Court.
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance of the Constitutional Court in relation to the finalisation of cases enrolled at the Court
Source / Collection of Data	Court rolls, Manual Registers, Court Judgments and Court Orders
Method of Calculation	(Number of cases finalised / total case load) x 100
	Case load = Cases brought forward (BF) + New cases
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Non-cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	No
Desired Performance	An increase in the finalisation of Court matters at the Constitutional Court.
	For the period under review the target is set at 70%.
Indicator Responsibilities	Court Administration Unit

2. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF MATTERS FINALISED (SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL)
Short Definition	The indicator measures the percentage of criminal and civil appeal matters finalised (upheld, granted, struck off the roll, removed, referred to Court, withdrawn or dismissed) by the Supreme Court of Appeal
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance of the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA) in relation to the finalisation of criminal and civil appeal matters enrolled at the SCA
Source / Collection of Data	Court rolls, Manual Registers, Court Judgments and Court Orders
Method of Calculation	Number of matters finalised / Total number of matters enrolled x 100
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Non-cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	No
<b>Desired Performance</b>	An increase in the percentage of SCA matters finalised
	For the period under review the target is set at 80%.
Indicator Responsibilities	Court Administration Unit

3. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF APPLICATIONS / PETITIONS FINALISED (SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL)
Short Definition	The indicator measures the percentage of applications / petitions finalised by the Supreme Court of Appeal
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance of the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA) in relation to the finalisation of applications / petitions enrolled at the SCA
Source / Collection of Data	Court rolls, Manual Registers, Court Judgments and Court Orders
Method of Calculation	Number of applications / petitions finalised $$ / Total number of applications / petitions enrolled x 100
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Non-cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	No
<b>Desired Performance</b>	An increase in the percentage of SCA applications / petitions finalised
	For the period under review the target is set at 80%.
Indicator Responsibilities	Court Administration Unit

4. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF MATTERS FINALISED (LABOUR APPEAL COURT)
Short Definition	The indicator measures the percentage of appeal matters finalised (upheld/ granted, settled, withdrawn or dismissed) by the Labour Appeal Court (LAC)
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance of the Labour Appeal Court in relation to the finalisation of appeal matters enrolled at the LAC.
Source / Collection of Data	Court rolls, Manual Registers, Court Judgments and Court Orders
Method of Calculation	Number of matters finalised / Total number of matters enrolled x 100
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Non-cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	Yes
Desired Performance	An increase in the percentage of LAC matters finalised
	For the period under review the target is set at 80%.
Indicator Responsibilities	Court Administration Unit

5. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF PETITIONS FINALISED (LABOUR APPEAL COURT)
Short Definition	The indicator measures the percentage of petitions finalised by the LAC
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance of the Labour Appeal Court in relation to the finalisation of petitions enrolled at the LAC
Source / Collection of Data	Court rolls, Manual Registers, Court Judgments and Court Orders
Method of Calculation	Number of petitions finalised / Total number of petitions enrolled x 100
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Non-cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	Yes
Desired Performance	An increase in the percentage of LAC petitions finalised
	For the period under review the target is set at 90%.
Indicator Responsibilities	Court Administration Unit

6. INDICATOR TITLE	REDUCTION PERCENTAGE OF CRIMINAL CASE BACKLOGS (ALL HIGH COURT DIVISIONS)
Short Definition	Reduce the percentage of cases in the High Court which are on the roll for more than 12 months (Criminal Case Backlog) *
Purpose / Importance	To measure the speedy finalisation of criminal backlog cases at the High Court
Source / Collection of Data	List of outstanding cases, Court judgments and Court orders
Method of Calculation	Total Criminal Trials Outstanding for more than 12 months from date of plea as at 31 March 2025 / All Criminal Trials Outstanding as at 31 March 2025 where the accused has pleaded.
Data Limitations	Delays due to Joint trials, outstanding warrants of arrest, lengthy trials (multiple charges and multiple accused), postponement of sentencing (postpone sentence section CPA), change of legal representation by accused and "double booking" by legal representatives.
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Non-cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	No
Desired Performance	A reduction in the percentage of backlog cases.
	For the period under review the target is set at 30%.
Indicator Responsibilities	Court Administration Unit

7. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF CRIMINAL MATTERS FINALISED (ALL HIGH COURT DIVISIONS)
Short Definition	The indicator measures the percentage of criminal matters finalised by the High Court. These include but not limited to: Automatic Reviews, Section 309C of the CPA, 1977, Petitions, Appeals including Full Bench Appeals, Section 105A of the CPA, 1977 (plea and sentence agreements), mental health reviews, bail appeals.
	*NB! The following outcomes will not be regarded as finalised: Postponed, Postponed Sine die, remanded in custody, reserved judgment, stood down, part heard, adjourned and blank (no outcome) entries specified.
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance in relation to the finalisation of criminal matters
Source / Collection of Data	Manual Registers and Court judgments
Method of Calculation	(Number of criminal matters finalised / total case load) x 100
	Total case load = The actual number of cases enrolled during the reporting period.
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Non-cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	No
Desired Performance	An increase in the percentage of criminal matters finalised.
	For the period under review the target is set at 75%.
Indicator Responsibilities	Court Administration Unit

8. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF CIVIL MATTERS FINALISED (ALL HIGH COURT DIVISIONS)
Short Definition	The indicator measures the percentage of civil (trials, opposed / unopposed motions, urgent applications, reviews, appeals including Full Bench appeals, pre-trial, admissions, Chamber book applications, Admiralty Court, tax Court, Equality Court) matters finalised (admitted, granted, dismissed, refused, settled and withdrawn) by the High Court
	*NB! The following outcomes will not be regarded as finalised: Postponed, Postponed Sine die, reserved judgment, stood down, part heard, adjourned and blank (no outcome) entries specified.
	** For Pre-trials proceeding only the finalised (granted and settlements) will be considered and form part of the total data population.
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance of the civil Courts
Source / Collection of Data	Court rolls, Manual Registers, Court judgments and Court orders
Method of Calculation	(Number of civil matters finalised / total case load) x100
	Total case load = The actual number of cases enrolled during the reporting period
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Non-cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	No
<b>Desired Performance</b>	An increase in the percentage of civil cases finalised
	For the period under review the target is set at 64%.
Indicator Responsibilities	Court Administration Unit

9. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF MATTERS FINALISED (LABOUR COURT)
Short Definition	The indicator measures the percentage of matters, (trials, opposed / unopposed motions, urgent applications, reviews, pre-trial, admissions, appeals) matters finalised (admitted, granted, dismissed, refused, settled, rule nisi discharged, rule nisi confirmed, withdrawn, matters remitted to CCMA / Bargaining Council, draft order) by the Labour Court.
	*NB! The following outcomes will not be regarded as finalised: Postponed, Postponed Sine die, reserved judgment, stood down, part heard, adjourned and blank (no outcome) entries specified.
	** For Pre-trials proceedings only the finalised (granted and settlements) will be considered and form part of the total data population.
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance of the Labour Court in relation to the finalisation of labour matters
Source / Collection of Data	Court judgments, Court orders, Court rolls and manual registers
Method of Calculation	(Number of matters finalised / total case load) x100
	Total case load = The actual number of matters enrolled during the reporting period
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Non-cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	No
Desired Performance	An increase in the percentage of labour matters finalised
	For the period under review the target is set at 58%.
Indicator Responsibilities	Court Administration Unit

10. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF ELECTORAL MATTERS FINALISED (ELECTORAL COURT)
Short Definition	The indicator measures the percentage of matters finalised (strike offs, withdrawn, granted or dismissed) by the Electoral Court.
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance of the Electoral Court in relation to finalisation of electoral matters
Source / Collection of Data	Court rolls, manual registers, Court Judgments and Court Orders
Method of Calculation	(Number of cases finalised / total case load) x100
	Total case load = The actual number of cases enrolled during the reporting period
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Non-cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Bi-annually and annually
New Indicator	No
Desired Performance	An increase in the percentage of Electoral cases finalised.
	For the period under review the target is set at 90%.
Indicator Responsibilities	Court Administration Unit

11. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF COMPETITION MATTERS FINALISED (COMPETITION APPEAL COURT)
Short Definition	The indicator measures the percentage of competition appeal matters finalised (upheld, granted, settled, set aside, withdrawn, removed, remitted or dismissed) by the Competition Appeal Court.
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance of the Competition Appeal Court in relation to the finalisation of competition appeal matters finalised
Source / Collection of Data	Court rolls, Manual Registers, Court Judgments and Court Orders
Method of Calculation	(Number of cases finalised / total case load) x100
	Total case load = The actual number of cases enrolled during the reporting period
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Non-cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Bi-annually and annually
New Indicator	No
Desired Performance	An increase in the percentage of competition appeal cases finalised
	For the period under review the target is set at 85%.
Indicator Responsibilities	Court Administration Unit

12. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF MATTERS FINALISED (LAND COURT)
Short Definition	The indicator measures the percentage of cases (Automatic Reviews, Restitution, Extension of Security of Tenure and Land Reform [Labour Tenant]) finalised (Orders of Magistrate Court Set Aside, Eviction Orders Confirmed, Cases that should never have
Durage / Importance	been referred, Settled, Judgments Orders, Withdrawn for Settlement) by the Land Court.
Purpose / Importance Source / Collection of Data	To measure the performance of the Land Court in relation to the finalisation of matters Court rolls, Manual Registers, Court judgments and Court orders
Method of Calculation	(Number of matters finalised / total case load) x100
	Total case load = The actual number of matters enrolled during the reporting period
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Non-cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	No
Desired Performance	An increase in the % of matters finalised
	For the period under review the target is set at 60%.
Indicator Responsibilities	Court Administration Unit

13. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF RESERVED JUDGMENTS FINALISED (ALL SUPERIOR COURTS)
Short Definition	The indicator measures the percentage of reserved judgments finalised by all Superior Courts.
Purpose / Importance	To measure the percentage of reserved judgments delivered by the Superior Courts within three months after the last hearing.
Source / Collection of Data	Court judgments, Manual Register of reserved judgments, data capturing tools and judicial bench book
Method of Calculation	(Number of reserved judgments delivered within three months / total number of reserved judgments delivered) $x100$
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Non-cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	No
Desired Performance	Speedy delivery of reserved judgments by all Superior Courts (reserved judgments delivered within three months of last hearing.
Indicator Responsibilities	Court Administration Unit



# ANNEXURE B: TECHNICAL INDICATOR DESCRIPTION: REGIONAL COURTS

1. INDICATOR TITLE	NUMBER OF CRIMINAL TRIALS ENROLLED PER DAY
Short Definition	The proportion of criminal trial ready matters enrolled per day.
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance in relation to the optimum functioning of the trial Courts and limit the total collapsing of the rolls.
Source / Collection of Data	Court roll, charge sheets, Court orders and criminal Court books.
Method of Calculation	Number of criminal trial ready matters enrolled / total cumulative combined Court days
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	Proxy Indicator
Desired Performance	An increase in the proportion of criminal trials enrolled daily.
Indicator Responsibilities	Regional Court Presidents Forum

2. INDICATOR TITLE	FINALISED CRIMINAL CASES PER DAY
Short Definition	The proportion of criminal trials finalised by the Regional Court per day.
	*NB! The following outcomes will not be regarded as finalised: Withdrawn, warrant of arrest, struck offs; Postponed, Postponed Sine die; remanded in custody, reserved judgment; stood down, part heard; adjourned and blank fields (no outcome entries captured)
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance in relation to the finalisation of criminal cases.
Source / Collection of Data	Court roll, charge sheets, Court orders and criminal Court books.
Method of Calculation	Number of criminal cases finalised / total cumulative combined Court days
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	Proxy Indicator
Desired Performance	An increase in the proportion of criminal trials finalised daily.
Indicator Responsibilities	Regional Court Presidents Forum

3. INDICATOR TITLE	DISPOSED CRIMINAL CASES PER DAY
Short Definition	The proportion of criminal trials disposed of by the Regional Court per day.
	*NB! The following outcomes will not be regarded as disposed of: Postponed, Postponed Sine die; remanded in custody, reserved judgment; stood down, part heard; adjourned and blank fields (no outcome entries captured)
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance in relation to the finalisation of criminal cases.
Source / Collection of Data	Court rolls, charge sheets, Court orders and criminal Court books.
Method of Calculation	Number of criminal cases disposed of / total cumulative combined Court days
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	Proxy Indicator
Desired Performance	An increase in the proportion of criminal matters disposed of daily.
Indicator Responsibilities	Regional Court Presidents Forum

4. INDICATOR TITLE	CRIMINAL CASES CLEARANCE RATE
Short Definition	The number of outgoing cases (resolved, disposed, or closed) as a proportion of the number of incoming cases (filed, registered, or opened) expressed as a percentage.
Purpose / Importance	To help Courts and Judicial Officers to understand whether they complete as many cases as are registered.
Source / Collection of Data	Court rolls, charge sheets, Court orders and criminal Court books.
Method of Calculation	(Number of criminal cases disposed of / total new cases registered) x 100
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	Proxy Indicator
Desired Performance	An increase in the percentage of criminal cases cleared from the roll.
Indicator Responsibilities	Regional Court Presidents Forum

5. INDICATOR TITLE	AVERAGE CRIMINAL COURT HOURS PER DAY
Short Definition	The average criminal trial Court hours per day.
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance in relation to the optimum utilisation (occupancy) of the trial Court time.
Source / Collection of Data	Criminal Court books.
Method of Calculation	Total cumulative combined Court hours sat / total cumulative combined Court days
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	No
Desired Performance	An increase in the daily average Court hours.
Indicator Responsibilities	Regional Court Presidents Forum

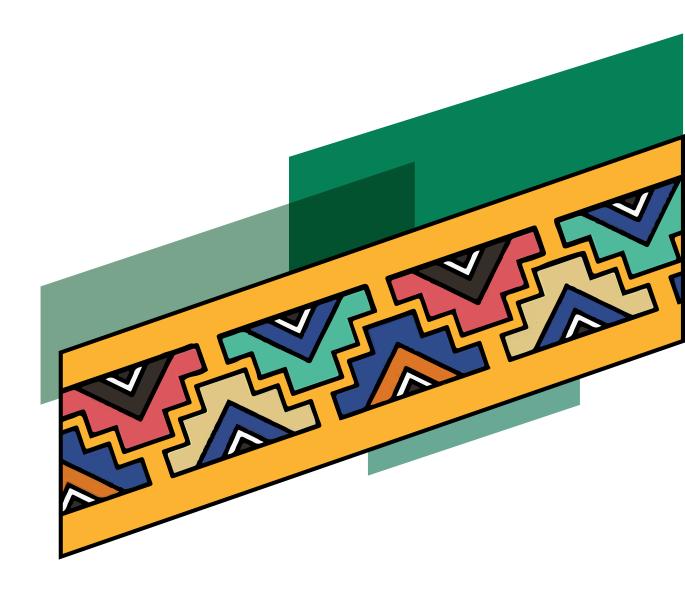
6. INDICATOR TITLE	THROUGHPUT (AVERAGE TRIAL COURT HOURS OF FINALISING A SINGLE COURT CASE)
Short Definition	The average criminal trial Court hours it took to finalise one case.
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance in relation to the duration in trial Court hours it took to at least finalise one case.
Source / Collection of Data	Criminal Court books.
Method of Calculation	Total cumulative combined criminal Court hours sat / total cases finalised
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	Proxy Indicator
Desired Performance	A reduction in the hours it takes to finalise a single case.
Indicator Responsibilities	Regional Court Presidents Forum

7. INDICATOR TITLE	FINALISED CIVIL APPLICATIONS PER DAY
Short Definition	The proportion of civil applications, (opposed / unopposed motions, urgent applications, appeals, default judgments) matters finalised (granted, dismissed, refused, settled rule nisi discharged, rule nisi confirmed, withdrawn draft order) by the Regional Court.
	*NB! The following outcomes will not be regarded as finalised: Postponed, Postponed Sine die; reserved judgment; stood down; part heard; adjourned and blank fields (no outcome entries captured)
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance of the Regional Court in relation to the finalisation of civil applications.
Source / Collection of Data	Court judgments, Court orders, Court rolls and Court books
Method of Calculation	Number of civil applications finalised / total cumulative combined Court days
Data Limitations	None
Type of Indicator	Output
Calculation Type	Cumulative
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually
New Indicator	Proxy Indicator
Desired Performance	An increase in the proportion of civil applications finalised daily.
Indicator Responsibilities	Regional Court Presidents Forum

8. INDICATOR TITLE	FINALISED CIVIL TRIALS PER DAY				
Short Definition	The proportion of civil trials finalised (granted, dismissed, refused, withdrawn; draft order made an order of Court) by the Regional Court.				
	*NB! The following outcomes will not be regarded as finalised: Postponed, Postponed Sine die; reserved judgment; stood down; part heard; adjourned and blank fields (no outcome entries captured)				
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance of the Regional Court in relation to the finalisation of civirials.				
Source / Collection of Data	Court judgments, Court orders, Court rolls and Court books				
Method of Calculation	Number of civil trials finalised / total cumulative combined Court days				
Data Limitations	None				
Type of Indicator	Output				
Calculation Type	Cumulative				
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually				
New Indicator	Proxy Indicator				
Desired Performance	An increase in the proportion of civil trials finalised daily.				
Indicator Responsibilities	Regional Court Presidents Forum				

9. INDICATOR TITLE	AVERAGE CIVIL COURT HOURS PER DAY				
Short Definition	The average civil trial Court hours per day.				
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance in relation to the optimum utilisation (occupancy) of the trial Court time.				
Source / Collection of Data	Criminal Court books.				
Method of Calculation	Total cumulative combined civil Court hours sat / total cumulative combined Court days				
Data Limitations	None				
Type of Indicator	Output				
Calculation Type	Cumulative				
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually				
New Indicator	No				
Desired Performance	An increase in the daily average Court hours.				
Indicator Responsibilities	Regional Court Presidents Forum				

10. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF JUDGMENTS RESERVED (REGIONAL COURTS)				
Short Definition	The percentage of judgments reserved for longer than three months after the last hearing.				
Purpose / Importance	To reduce the number of reserved judgments and ensure timely delivery of reserved judgments.				
Source / Collection of Data	Court judgments, manual register of reserved judgments and judicial bench book.				
Method of Calculation	(Number of judgments reserved for longer than three months / total number of judgments reserved) x100				
Data Limitations	None				
Type of Indicator	Output				
Calculation Type	Non-cumulative				
Reporting Cycle	Quarterly and Annually				
New Indicator	No				
Desired Performance	Speedy delivery of reserved judgments.				
	Reserved judgments to be delivered within three months of last hearing.				
Indicator Responsibilities	Regional Court Presidents Forum				

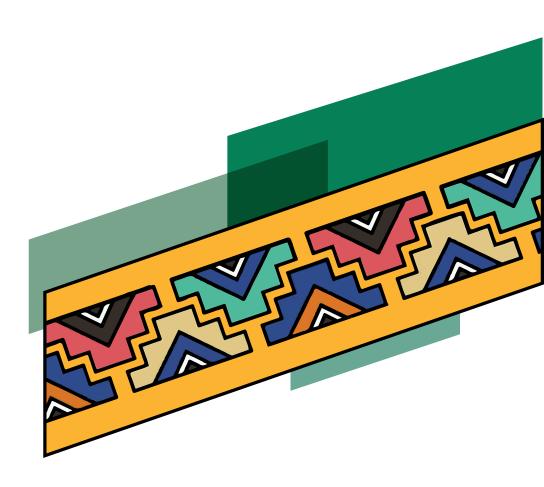


# ANNEXURE C: TECHNICAL INDICATOR DESCRIPTION: DISTRICT COURTS

1. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF CRIMINAL CASES FINALISED				
Short Definition	The percentage of criminal cases finalised				
	*NB! The following outcomes are regarded as finalised: Cases finalised in terms of Section 115 of the Criminal Procedure Act (with evidence); Section 112(1)(b), section 112(2) and Section 112(1)(a) (without evidence). Also included are cases withdrawal/ struck of roll/ transferred, warrant of arrest issued, referred to Regional Court, referred to High Court, transferred to admission of guilt register and other finalised matters.				
Purpose / Importance	To measure the performance of District Courts in relation to incoming cases against the ability of the Courts to finalise matters per month.				
Source / Collection of Data	Court roll, charge sheets, criminal Court books.				
Method of Calculation	(Total number of criminal matters finalised / total number of criminal case load) x				
	Total case load = new cases enrolled + re-enrolment of cases + outstanding Court roll brought forward from previous month				
	Total number of cases finalised = in terms of Section 115 of the Criminal Procedure Act (with evidence) + Section 112(1)(b) + Section 112(2) + Section 112(1)(a) (without evidence) + withdrawal + struck of roll +transferred + warrant of arrest issued + referred to Regional Court + referred to High Court + transferred to admission of guilt register + other finalised matters.				
Data Limitations	None				
Type of Indicator	Output				
Calculation Type	Cumulative for the month year end				
Reporting Cycle	Annually				
New Indicator	Proxy Indicator				
Desired Performance	An increase in the proportion of criminal cases finalised per month.				
Indicator Responsibilities	Chief Magistrates Forum				

2. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF CHILD JUSTICE PRELIMINARY INQUIRIES FINALISED WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF FIRST APPEARANCE				
Short Definition	Percentage of Child Justice preliminary inquiries finalised				
Purpose / Importance	This indicator monitors the prompt finalisation of preliminary inquiries in				
	terms of the Child Justice Act				
Source / Collection of Data	Court rolls, charge sheets, Court orders and criminal Court books.				
	Data collection ICMS: Child Justice				
Method of Calculation	(Total number of preliminary inquiries finalised within 30 days from date of				
	first appearance / Total number of matters finalised) *100				
Data Limitations	None				
Type of Indicator	Output				
Calculation Type	Cumulative				
Reporting Cycle	Annually				
New Indicator	No				
Desired Performance	Speedy finalisation of preliminary inquiries in the best interest of children through a				
	reduction of Court days utilised to finalise Child Justice preliminary inquiries to adhere to judicial norms and standards				
Indicator Responsibilities	Chief Magistrates Forum and DoJ&CD consolidated system report				

3. INDICATOR TITLE	PERCENTAGE OF MAINTENANCE MATTERS FINALISED WITHIN 90 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF PROPER SERVICE OF PROCESS				
Short Definition	Percentage of Maintenance matters finalised				
Purpose / Importance	This indicator monitors the prompt finalisation of maintenance matters in the best interests of children.				
Source / Collection of Data	Court rolls, charge sheets, Court orders and criminal Court books.				
Method of Calculation	Percentage of maintenance matters finalised within 90 days from date of proper service = (Number of maintenance matters finalised within four months from date of proper service /Total number of maintenance matters finalised) *100  Finalisation refers to maintenance applications concluded by the Magistrate through resolved/ disposed/ or closed				
Data Limitations	None				
Type of Indicator	Output				
Calculation Type	Cumulative				
Reporting Cycle	Annually				
New Indicator	Yes				
Desired Performance	Speedy finalisation of maintenance matters in the best interest of children				
Indicator Responsibilities	Chief Magistrates Forum				







#### **CONTACT US**

#### **National Office**

188, 14th Road Noordwyk Midrand 1685

#### Switchboard

+27 10 493 2500