

## SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE FAST FACTS

## **Riverside County Superior Court**

The court has 14 courthouses, spread over 7,300 square miles in three regions, to serve Riverside County's 2,347,828 citizens.



• The court's current complement of 77 judicial officers is comprised of 62 judges, 14 commissioners, and one hearing officer, although the court maintains a number of vacancies at any given time.

## Caseload Data (Per Judicial Council of California 2015 Report)

- In fiscal year 2013-14, the court had 423,340 filings of all types, including: 18,195 felonies; 41,731 misdemeanors; 50,665 civil; 34,862 family law and juvenile; and 273,987 infractions. According to the Judicial Council of California 2015 Court Statistics Report, Riverside County Superior Court had 5,570 filings per judicial position, the second highest number amongst the state's 58 counties.
- In fiscal year 2013-14, the court heard 612 jury trials of all types, or 7.9 per judicial position.
- Due to the economic downturn, the court has seen filing spikes in a number of specific case types over the last several years, including unlawful detainers, limited civil and family law.

## **Resource Needs**

- According to the Judicial Council's 2014 update of the Judicial Needs Assessment, Riverside County Superior Court
  has a need for 127 judges. With only 62 judges and 14 commissioners, the court needs an additional 51 judges to
  provide appropriate access to justice for Riverside County residents. Assembly Bill (AB) 159 authorized seven
  additional judgeships, effective June 2008, however due to state budget constraints, these appointments were
  delayed until July 1, 2009. The appointments have been delayed through several budget cycles.
- Riverside County has seen a 51 percent increase in population since 2000. Its population more than doubled between 1989 (1,057,200 citizens) and 2016 (2,347,828 citizens), while the number of judicial positions has increased by only 31 percent since 1989. Case filings have increased from 358,782 in fiscal year 1993-94, to 423,340 in fiscal year 2013-14, an increase of 18 percent.
- Riverside's ratio of judicial positions per 100,000 of population is 3.3, compared to the statewide average of 5.2.