



SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (OVERVIEW - 2025)

The 17th Judicial District encompasses all of Adams and Broomfield counties. Adams County is the fifth largest county in Colorado with an estimated population of 533,365. The City and County of Broomfield has an estimated population of 83,717. The District is composed of two main organizational units: the Trial Court and Probation Department.

The 17th is currently the third largest judicial district in Colorado by caseload volume. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, which runs from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, there were 21,504 case filings at the district court level and 58,245 at the county level. This caseload is the responsibility of 37 Judicial Officers: 12 magistrates, 9 county court judges and 16 district court judges. Two of the district court judges and one of the county court judges sit in Broomfield County.

County Court Judges are responsible for handling a large workload of traffic and misdemeanor matters, as well as small claims and civil cases that do not reach the jurisdictional dollar amount for the district court. In FY 2024, judges in county court handled 131 jury trials and 159 court trials. District Court Judges handle a caseload comprised of the following case types: domestic relations, felony, juvenile, probate, mental health, and civil filings. During FY 2024, 88 jury trials and 20 court trials were held in district court. Five Magistrates are currently assigned to the county court and 7 to district court.

In addition to Judicial Officers, the Trial Court has 155.55 employees. These positions include Court Judicial Assistants (courtroom clerks and Clerk's Office staff), court administrators and administrative staff, Clerks of Court, Supervisors and Specialists, Protected Proceedings Monitors, Family Court Facilitators, Problem Solving Court Coordinators, Court Reporters, Interpreters, Law Clerks, and Collection Investigators. During FY 2023, the 17th collected \$3,411,504 in restitution (principal only) for victims of crimes.

The Probation Department employs 152 employees in four office locations: Brighton, Westminster, Commerce City, and in the Adams County Justice Center. In FY 2024, the probation department conducted 1,118 adult and juvenile offender pre-sentence investigations and prepared post-sentence assessments, screenings, drug screens, and other reports. The department also completed 1,723 alcohol evaluations. The department received 4,540 new adult cases for probation supervision, 553 of which were referred to private probation and terminated 3,589 from state probation with an additional 499 terminated from private probation. The department received 187 new juvenile cases for probation supervision and terminated 140. There were 499 probationers supervised in intensive programs. As of January 24, 2025, there were 8,932 active adult and juvenile probationers being supervised in the district. The Probation Department employs two Victim Service officers. In FY 2024, 2,039 initial notifications were sent to victims of crime in associated probation cases. 512 notification requests were returned. A total of 2,188 victim notifications of critical stages of probation supervision were completed.

The 17th Judicial District is also home to several specialized programs aimed at improving our system: a Family Treatment Court; an adult Drug Treatment Court; an adult treatment court focused on the unique needs of female offender; a Veteran's Treatment Court; an Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA); a court liaison program (BRIDGES), which facilitates communication between judicial and behavioral health systems; and a specialized mental health program. These specialized courts are a collaborative effort between the District, local and state agencies, and community partners. In addition, the district has an eviction defense program, and 3 Self Represented Litigant Coordinators to assist self-represented parties.

The 17th is one of the fastest growing judicial districts in the state of Colorado and continues to demonstrate its commitment to efficient and accessible justice and procedural fairness through active judicial case management and oversight.

For further information regarding the Trial Court, please contact the Court Executive, Patricia Kmitta, at 303-659-1161 or patricia.kmitta@judicial.state.co.us. Questions regarding Probation may be directed to Jenifer Morgen, Chief Probation Officer, at 303-255-4226.