National Open Court Data Standards

NODS

USER GUIDE

April 2020

Introduction

The Conference of State Court Administrators and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) have developed business and technical court data standards to support the creation, sharing, and integration of court data. The purposes of the National Open Court Data Standards (NODS) are:

- Making case-level data available to researchers, policymakers, legislators, the media, and the public from state and local courts.
- Providing transparency in court operations to improve public confidence.
- Making data available for public and court system use in a consistent manner that can improve public policy and reduce the possibility of error and misinterpretation.
- Reducing the burden on court system staff in responding to data requests.

The data elements included in the NODS project are those elements most likely to be requested by and shared with other agencies and/or researchers. The NODS have been created with the expressed purpose of standardizing data provided to requestors and do not include all the data elements that would be contained in a case management system. Inclusion of data elements in the NODS project does not guarantee that they will be available from any given court. No court collects all the data elements in NODS and participating in NODS does not place any obligation on a court to collect or provide any particular data element. Each court must abide by their own state laws and court rules regarding the availability of data.

The NODS data elements were identified by workgroups composed of court experts from around the country. They were then released for public comment and further revised and amended. Additional work was done to reconcile the data elements, to the extent possible, across case types.

Definitions and values are provided for each data element. Many jurisdictions may collect data with more granularity than is included in the NODS project. However, if data elements are mapped to the NODS standards, either by the court or by the data user, greater consistency and comparability in the use of court data is possible.

>> The Documents

The following documents are provided as part of NODS:

NODS leadership guide	A broad overview of the NODS project, intended for court leaders.
NODS data elements spreadsheet	All data elements included in NODS, with definitions and value lists. Each tab includes a segment of information. The primary case category or categories (civil, family, probate, dependency, juvenile, criminal, or traffic/parking/local ordinance) for which the data element is relevant is marked.
NODS user guide (this document)	Discussion of data elements, their use, and mapping guidance for those elements requiring additional context or explanation. The user guide is intended for data specialists, court users of the data, and those who request court data.
NODS technical notes	Brief technical document explaining the NODS logical data models.
NODS logical data models	A set of entity-relationship diagrams (ERDs) that illustrate logical groupings of elements (tables) representing entities and their relationships with other entities.

>> Using this guide

This guide is intended to be used along with the NODS Data Elements spreadsheet. Each section of this user guide corresponds to a tab on the spreadsheet. Data elements or issues specific to a single case category are indicated with an icon, as seen below.

Adult/Criminal

Dependency

Juvenile

Traffic/Parking/ Local Ordinance

Civil

Family

Probate

FAQ

Not all data elements included in the NODS data elements spreadsheet are discussed in this guide. Items in **bold** in this document are data elements in the NODS data elements spreadsheet. Sample values from the NODS data elements spreadsheet are *italicized*.

Q: Why are some data elements included for just one or two case categories?

A: Some data elements were noted as critical by the workgroup for one case category but not by the others. Courts may choose to collect such elements for all case categories.

>> Unit of Count

The number of cases filed is a basic piece of information that should be counted consistently across courts. The following definitions are taken from the **State Court Guide to Statistical Reporting**. It is intended to count only cases that are in controversy or potentially in controversy, not for those that are administrative functions of the court, such as issuing marriage, firearm, or fishing/game licenses.

Note that subject areas are typically defined in state laws or court rules and may vary from those definitions provided below. These definitions are provided to assist data users with mapping data.

Case Category	Definition	Unit of Count	Specific case types
Civil	Civil cases are a broad category of trial court cases in which a plaintiff requests the enforcement or protection of a right from the redress or prevention of a wrong.	A petition or civil complaint begins a civil case in most trial courts. A civil case with multiple parties or multiple causes of action are counted as one case.	Tort* Contract Real property Small claims Other civil
Criminal	Criminal cases are a broad category for trial court cases in which a defendant is charged with violation(s) of state law(s).	A criminal case is generally initiated by a complaint, an information, or indictment. Count the defendant and all charges involved in a single incident as a single case. If the charging document contains multiple defendants involved in a single incident, count each defendant as a single case.	Felony Misdemeanor Appeal from limited jurisdiction court
Dependency	Dependency cases are a subcategory of juvenile cases in which it is alleged that a child has been abused or neglected or is otherwise without proper parental care and/or supervision.	A petition involving multiple children or causes of action is counted as one case. Additional petitions filed after disposition of the initial petition are counted as reopened cases.	Dependency-abuse/neglect Dependency-no fault Termination of parental rights Dependency-other

*For civil, case categories are provided. See the NODS data elements spreadsheet for case types in greater detail.

Family	Family cases involve actions between family members (or others considered to be in a domestic relationship).	A petition or complaint begins a family case in most trial courts. A family case with multiple parties or multiple causes of action are counted as one case.	Dissolution/divorce Legal separation Annulment Parentage Child custody Child support (including enforcement IV–D and private) Emancipation Spousal support/alimony Visitation Termination of parental rights Adoption Civil protection/restraining order Immigration Judicial bypass Surrogacy Domestic relations – other
Juvenile	Juvenile cases are a broad category of trial court cases requesting the court to adjudicate a youth as a delinquent, status offender, or to waive jurisdiction and transfer a youth to criminal court.	A petition generally begins a juvenile case. Count the juvenile and all allegations involved in a single incident as a single case. If the charging document contains multiple juveniles involved in a single incident, count each juvenile as a single case.	Delinquency Status offense

Probate	Probate cases are a subcategory of civil cases concerning the care of a vulnerable person or the managing of a deceased person's assets.	A petition or complaint begins a probate case in most trial courts. If multiple vulnerable parties are listed on one petition, count as one case. Additional petitions filed after disposition of the initial petition are counted as reopened cases.	Guardianship-Adult Guardianship-Juvenile Conservatorship-Adult Conservatorship-Juvenile Both-Adult Both- Juvenile Limited Guardianship-Adult Limited Guardianship-Juvenile Limited Conservatorship-Adult Limited Conservatorship-Juvenile Limited Both-Adult Limited Both-Juvenile Wills Trust Estates
Traffic & Local Ordinance	Traffic, Parking, and Local Ordinance Violation cases are a broad category of trial court cases involving a violation of statutes and local ordinances governing traffic and parking, as well as a violation of other local ordinances.	Count each original charging document (e.g. ticket, citation) filed as one case. If it contains more than one charge, it is still only counted as one case.	Non-criminal traffic violation Parking violation Ordinance violation Violation - other

Tab 1: Case Information

The first tab in the NODS data elements spreadsheet includes general, descriptive case information. This includes information that is available for nearly all case types in nearly all courts, such as the court case identifier and primary case category. It also includes case-level information typically available for one or a few case categories. Case information also includes a summary version of data elements that may be populated based on specific events in a case. One example of this is a flag to indicate whether an interpreter was used at any point in the case.

>> Case Type

The following table assists with mapping case types between **Court Statistics Project (CSP)** and NODS. NODS case types are often described in greater detail. The "unknown" or "other" case types present in CSP are largely absent from NODS. The goal of CSP is to provide a national perspective by collecting and publishing state court caseload data and so the data collection casts a wide net. The goal of NODS is to share data for more specific comparisons and purposes, so "unknown" and "other" tend not to be as useful.

Data element	Discussion
Primary case category	This is a broad category. Most courts will map cases to a primary case category based on case type.
Case type	Case types are provided within broader categories. These may differ from how cases are grouped by individual courts or states but are intended to provide comparability across courts and states.
Probate case types	For the purposes of NODS, • *Guardianships* are cases involving granting powers to make personal or well-being decisions (e.g. health care, housing, education). • *Conservatorships* are cases involving granting powers to make financial decisions. • *Both* include cases where powers are granted to make both personal and financial decisions. • *Limited* are those cases where only specified powers are outlined in the petition. Base the case type on the petition, or what was filed with the court. Powers granted by the court are captured in event detail tabs.

NODS **probate case type**	CSP Civil
Guardianship-Adult	Guardianship-Adult
Limited Guardianship-Adult	
Both (Guardianship & Conservatorship)-Adult	
Limited Both-Adult	
Guardianship-Juvenile	Guardianship-Juvenile
Limited Guardianship-Juvenile	
Both (Guardianship & Conservatorship)-Juvenile	
Limited Both-Juvenile	
Conservatorship-Adult	Conservatorship/Trusteeship
Limited Conservatorship-Adult	
Conservatorship-Juvenile	
Limited Conservatorship-Juvenile	
Wills	Probate/Wills/Intestate
Trusts	
Estates	

Civil case types	Note that civil case types have greater detail than those in the State Court Guide to Statistical Reporting, so many courts will only report the case types included. The civil case category can be mapped from case type.		
	NODS **civil case category**	NODS **civil case type**	CSP
	Tort	Automobile	Automobile Tort
		Intentional	Intentional Tort
		Medical Malpractice	Malpractice-Medical
		Legal Malpractice	Malpractice-Other
		Accounting Malpractice	
		Other Malpractice	
		Nursing home liability	Depending on the nature of the liability, it is most likely to be Malpractice-Medical though could also be Premises Liability
		Premises Liability	Premises Liability
		Product Liability	Product Liability
		Slander/Libel/Defamation	Slander/Libel/Defamation
		Tort-Other	Tort-Other
	Contract	Insurance Claim	Buyer Plaintiff
		Construction	
		Other Buyer Plaintiff	
		Employment Discrimination	Employment Dispute-Discrimination
		Employment-Other	Employment Dispute-Other
		Fraud	Fraud
		Landlord/Tenant-Unlawful Detainer	Landlord/Tenant-Unlawful Detainer
		Landlord/Tenant-Other	Landlord/Tenant Dispute-Other
		Mortgage Foreclosure	Mortgage Foreclosure
		Seller Plaintiff (Debt)	Seller Plaintiff (Debt)
		Business Dispute	Contract-Other
		Contract-Other	Contract-Other
	Real Property	Eminent Domain	Eminent Domain
		Real Property-Other	Real Property-Other
	Small Claims	Small Claims-Tort	Small Claims
		Small Claims-Contract	

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	Other Civil	*Direct Action from Administrative Decision*	Appeal from Administrative Agency
		Civil Commitment	Mental Health
		Non-domestic Protection Order	Non-Domestic Relations Restraining Order
		Gun Violence Restraining Order	Non-Domestic Relations Restraining Order
		Constitutional Claim	Civil-Other
		Structured Settlement	Civil-Other
		Other	Civil-Other
		Habeas Corpus	Habeas Corpus
		Tax	Tax
		Appeal from Limited Jurisdiction Court	Appeal from Limited Jurisdiction Court
		Writ	Writ

Q: Why is termination of parental rights a value both for family case type and for dependency case type?

A: The difference will lie in the originating cause. In a situation where the parent's rights are being terminated as a result of abuse or neglect of the child, it is counted as a dependency case. In a situation where the parent's rights are being terminated absent abuse or neglect, typically as a private action, it is counted as a family case. In family cases, a termination of parental rights may occur to release an individual from future child support obligations or in preparation for a stepparent adoption.

>> Case Status

The **current case status** is the case status as of the date of the data extraction, though history of case status should be maintained (see Tab 4: Status). The history of the case status can be used to determine whether the case had any **excluded time**. Alternatively, an excluded time flag can be triggered any time the case is set to inactive status, though it will not be possible to calculate the length of time excluded if the history (with dates) is not retained.

>> Disposition

The **case disposition category** is a broad category of disposition. The **manner of disposition detail** provides greater granularity. The **case manner of disposition** indicates whether the case went to trial.

Jury trial: A jury trial should be counted when the jury has been sworn, regardless of whether a verdict is reached.

Bench trial: A case in which a judicial officer is assigned to determine both the issues of fact and law in the case and evidence is introduced, regardless of whether a judgment is reached.

The following chart is intended as a guide, though it does not cover every possible scenario.

Case Disposition Category	Definition	Mapping from Case Disposition detail	Case manner of disposition
Judgment	The court reached a formal decision or determination on the matter before it and can be legally enforced by the parties.	Jury trial verdict	Jury trial
		Bench trial judgment	Bench trial
		Summary judgment	Non-trial
		Default judgment	
		Arbitration award	
		Stipulated judgment	
Settlement/Plea	The parties reach agreement in the case without going to a final court judgment in the case. In the event of noncompliance with the settlement agreement, parties would need to return to court, prove the breach of contract, and secure a judgment.	Settled/Pled During Jury Trial Period	Jury trial
			Bench trial
		Settled/Pled Pre-trial	Non-trial
Dismissal	The court or the plaintiff/prosecutor in a case terminates the lawsuit/prosecution without going to a final court judgment on the case. There is no legal bar to refiling the case at a later time.	Procedural disposition	Non-trial
		Stipulated/Voluntary/Nolle Prosequi/Withdrawn	
		Dismissal: No Service	
		Dismissal: Failure to Prosecute	
Transfer	The case is moved to another jurisdiction prior to reaching a final court judgment.	Transfer	Non-trial
Other		Administrative Judgment Removal Consolidation	Non-trial

*The manner of disposition may be calculated from events.

Waiver hearings in traffic are considered non-trial manners of disposition.

>> Critical Dates

The **case filing date** is the date the original petition/complaint is filed. If a fee waiver is filed prior to the petition or complaint, that date may be captured in the **fee waiver date** field.

The **disposition date** is the date of the entry of judgment or other disposition on the primary petition or complaint.

For criminal and traffic cases, **disposition date** is captured at the charge level. The date the last charge is disposed is the disposition date for the case.

The **case closed date** is the date upon which the final dispositional event for the case occurred, and it may be calculated based upon the date of that final dispositional event. A case is closed if additional court action would require a new petition to be filed.

Disposition date and **case closed date** will often be the same date. In some cases, notably dependency and some probate cases, the case closed date may be months or years after the initial disposition date.

>> Judicial Officer Identifier

A judicial officer's role is to ensure that individuals receive prompt and impartial hearings, to make decisions regarding the application of laws, and to ensure the smooth management of cases necessary to maintain and uphold the courts. The term **judicial officer identifier** is deliberately broad to include judges, magistrates, hearing officers, and others who serve these functions.

Some jurisdictions do not make specific judge assignments to cases. If this is the case, a researcher needs to specify at which point in the case they are seeking the **judicial officer identifier** (at filing, trial, case closure, etc.).

>> Special Case Information

Several flags are provided to indicate special circumstances that are often of policy or case management interest. These include the following:

Confidentiality flag: this is an indication that a case includes confidential information. This may pertain to legal minors, medical information, or detailed financial information.

Linked case: this is the case number of an associated case. There may be several cases linked. A case may be linked in the following circumstances:

Transfer	Include the case number of the case in the previous jurisdiction. Best practice is for the transferring court to capture the case number in the receiving jurisdiction.
Change of case number	Include the previous case number.
Case participants involved in multiple cases	Example: a juvenile in a dependency case also has a delinquency case, so each case number would be included as a linked case in the other. Example: A party in a divorce case has a criminal case, so each case number would be included as a linked case in the other.
Appealed case	When a case from a limited jurisdiction court is appealed to a general jurisdiction trial court, best practice is for both courts to capture the other case number.

Excluded time flag: this flag indicates that the case was subject to excluded time at some point in the case. Excluded time is typically when a case is on inactive status because the court cannot take action, such as when the court is waiting action by another court, a defendant has absconded, or because the court is awaiting a psychological evaluation. This field may be calculated from case status history.

Minors involved flag: this flag indicates, in a family case, that minors are involved. This field may be calculated from other fields if the number of children is entered or if children are entered as case participants. It is assumed that minors are involved in a juvenile or a dependency case, so this flag is not relevant in those case types.

Case closure reason: this guardianship/conservatorship field is an indication of the reason the case is no longer under the court's control. These reasons would constitute a final disposition for the case.

Tab 2: Participant Information

Participant information includes information about parties and other case participants. Some courts capture only parties, while others capture more detail about other participants including witnesses. Attorneys and advocates are included in tab 3.

Although **party name** information is included, this is not a releasable data field in many jurisdictions.

Date of birth is also included. To protect privacy, it is common practice to release only the year of birth. For individuals over a particular age (often 85), the year of birth is often not released.

Self-identification is preferred for **race**, **ethnicity**, and **gender**. In some jurisdictions, a proxy for self-identified race and gender may be based upon the perception of the criminal justice officer or court official who had the first contact with the individual. Because of the sensitivity of the information, gender may not be collected or, if it is collected, may not be released. Many jurisdictions collect race information in greater detail, but they can be mapped to the race values in NODS.

Although most courts collect address information for most case types, only **ZIP code** is included as it is typically the only aspect of an address that would be shared. Some jurisdictions release only the first three digits of a ZIP code.

Within **entity type**, *other agency* refers to nonprofit social services agencies. State agencies are mapped to *other government agency*.

State firearm restrictions capture Brady Act restrictions.

In some case types, the participant's role in the case should be indicated as **relationship to action**. Participants may have more than one role, such as when one person serves as both the conservator and the guardian.

Role	Subject area	Examples of individuals in this role
Interested party	Probate	Heir in an estate case
Conservator	Probate	Person acting in the role of fiduciary
Subject of the petition	Dependency	Child
	Probate guardianship	Ward
	Probate estate	Decedent

In civil cases, the **Relationship to Action** should also be captured to indicate whether the party is involved in a primary claim, counterclaim, cross-claim, or third-party claim. As parties may have multiple roles, it is best practice to allow for multiple entries. Not all courts capture witness information, but when they do, the relationship to action should indicate that the participant is a witness.

In probate cases, the **executor/guardian/conservator's relationship to the subject of the petition** should be indicated.

- A *professional* is an individual not related to the subject of the petition and who may receive compensation for this role. This includes corporate fiduciaries and attorneys acting in this role. Because certification and professional definitions vary from state to state, this is based upon the state's definitions.
- A *public* guardian is an individual or agency deemed to be an officer of the court and who may be compensated by public funds.
- *Other* includes institutions serving as guardian.

Some jurisdictions capture the **date of guardian/conservator registration** in probate cases. This is the date when the guardian or conservator has completed all requirements to serve (e.g. bond, background check).

For **residential status** (sometimes captured in guardianships/conservatorships), private homes, family homes, group homes, and congregate care should be mapped to *independent living*.

Tab 3: Attorneys & Advocates

The **Attorney/Advocate ID** number should be kept consistent across cases and case types. In some jurisdictions, the bar number may be the ID number used for attorneys.

A Guardian ad Litem (*GAL*) is listed as the type of attorney if serving as a best-interest attorney. If the GAL is a non-attorney or an attorney acting as an advocate rather than an attorney, the party type should be mapped to *CASA/Non-attorney GAL*.

Tab 4: Status

Case status is often triggered by case events. The following case statuses are standard:

- *Open/Pending:* An open case is one with a petition pending before the court. For purposes of NODS, this includes cases that have been reopened or reactivated.
- *Inactive:* an inactive case is one whose status has been administratively changed to inactive during the reporting period due to events beyond the court's control. The court can take no further action on an inactive case until an event restores the case to the court's active pending caseload. Typical reasons for inactive status include:
  - o A stay is issued due to military duty or incarceration of one of the parties
  - o A stay is issued due to filing of a bankruptcy proceeding in Federal court (civil)
  - o The case is subject to mandated arbitration not under the court's control (civil)
  - o A stay is issued from a higher court
  - o A stay is issued from a court of equal standing in another county, district, or state
  - o The defendant has absconded, an arrest order has been issued, and the court has suspended activity until the defendant is apprehended and returned to court.
- *Disposed/Closed:* A case is disposed/closed if additional court action would require a new petition to be filed.
- *Disposed/Set for Review:* a case that, following an initial Entry of Judgment, is awaiting regularly scheduled reviews involving a hearing before a judicial officer. This is typically true in dependency cases. For guardianship and conservatorship cases only, the status should be Set for Review if they are scheduled for administrative or audit reviews, even if they do not always result in a judicial hearing. The designation of set for review is very helpful in distinguishing between cases in which a petition is pending (open) and those that are active for the court but in which no petition is pending.
- Below is an example of how the case status is captured in a dependency case, though precise actions will vary:

Action	Case status	Notes
Pleading filed	*Open*	
Adjudicatory hearing & disposition	*Disposed and set for review*	Time to disposition = disposition date – filing date
Review hearing	*Disposed and set for review*	No new petition, no change in status
Permanency hearing	*Disposed and set for review*	No new petition, no change in status
Termination of parental rights (TPR) petition filed	*Open*	May have status of reopened in case management system
TPR petition disposed	*Disposed and set for review*	Time to disposition = TPR disposition date – TPR filing date
Adoption petition filed	*Open*	May have status of reopened in case management system
Adoption petition disposed	*Closed*	Time to disposition = adoption disposition date – adoption filing date

- Below is an example of how the case status is captured in a guardianship case:

Action	Case status	Notes
Pleading filed	*Open*	
Adjudicatory hearing & disposition	*Disposed and set for review*	Time to disposition = disposition date – filing date
Review of annual accounting	*Disposed and set for review*	No new petition, no change in status
Review of annual accounting	*Disposed and set for review*	No new petition, no change in status
Final report/accounting (subject of the petition has aged out or is deceased)	*Closed*	

For more detail about case status, see the NCSC's **State Court Guide to Statistical Reporting**.

Tab 5: Pleadings

If a petitioner files a fee waiver request, capture the **fee waiver date**. This is the date the fee waiver request was filed, if it is a different date than the **pleading date** of the substantive petition.

There are a number of fields on this tab specific to probate filings and the following guidance is provided to help courts or data users map commonly used values to the NODS values.

Data element	Map this value	To this NODS value
Initial probate pleading type	Standby petitions	*Emergency/Temporary/Special*
Initial probate pleading reason	Intellectual, physical, and developmental disabilities	*Disability*
Subsequent probate pleading reason	Reaching age of majority	*Restoration*
	Removal (of guardian/conservator) for cause	Select the value based on the underlying reason for the removal, such as *abuse* or *neglect/abandonment*
	Request for visitation	*Other*

Tab 6: Motions & Filings

The **filing party** may be captured by name or by the relationship to the case.

In civil, the following are recommendations for mapping motions and filings:

Data element	Map this value	To this NODS value
Motion/Filing type	Substitution of counsel	*Administrative*
	Admit attorney pro hac vice	
	Summary judgment	*Dispositive*
	Default judgment	
	Failure to state a claim	
	Withdrawal or nonsuit	
	Dismissed due to settlement	
	New trial	*Post-trial*
	Judgment notwithstanding verdict (JNOV)	
	Additur/remittitur	
	Attorney fees	
	Notice of appeal	
	Collection/enforcement	
	Inspection of records	
	Jurisdictional & process pleadings	*Other*
	Transfer	
	Quash process	
	Change of venue	
	Notification (e.g. exchange of information between parties)	
	Affidavit	
	Brief	

Tab 7: Hearings & Events

The elements present on the hearings & events tab include trials, conferences, and ADR sessions.

The **scheduled event date** is the date on which the hearing was scheduled. Each **scheduled event date** should also have a **hearing/event outcome**, which will indicate if that particular hearing was *held, continued, cancelled*, or *postponed or rescheduled*. There will be more than one scheduled event date if the event was continued, postponed, or rescheduled. If the event was continued or postponed, provide the **continuance/ postponement reason**.

The **type of hearing** should also be captured. Separate data elements are included for civil, criminal, traffic, dependency, family, juvenile, and probate hearing types. Because different jurisdictions have different names for hearings, it may be necessary to map hearing names to the types.

Similarly, the **conference type** should also be captured. *Pre-trial* conferences may include in-chambers/ off-the-record conferences in juvenile cases.

For each event, regardless of type, the following basic information should be collected:

Data element	Note
Scheduled date of the event	There may be more than one date if the event was continued or postponed.
Judicial officer	Name or identification number may be used.
Parties present	May be included by name or by their relationship to the action (e.g. defendant, plaintiff, prosecutor, witness).
Attorneys and advocates present	By name or role in the case.
Interpreter present	Associate to the party (or party's relationship to the action) or the witness.

In Civil cases, show cause, preliminary injunction, and temporary restraining order are all considered *emergency hearings*.

Q: What's the difference between continued and postponed?

A: A continued hearing was begun but not completed. A postponed or rescheduled hearing was not begun.

Tab 8: Orders

Order information is challenging to capture accurately, particularly as a single order may address numerous issues. In many cases, the title of the order may be the best indicator of the order type. In civil cases, the following mapping guidance may prove useful:

Civil Order Type	Dispositive	Dismissal for failure to serve
		Dismissal for failure to prosecute
		Dismissal pursuant to settlement
		Removal to federal court
		Transfer/Change of venue
		Consolidation
	Pretrial	Emergency (e.g. temporary restraining order)
		Scheduling
		Discovery
		Postponement/Continuance
		Case management (e.g. class action certification, referral to ADR, compliance with court rules
	Post-trial	Outcome
		JNOV (Judgment notwithstanding the verdict)
		New trial
		Additur/Remittitur (raising or lowering the amount of damages granted)
		Attorney fees
		Collection/Enforcement
	Other	Fee waiver
		Body attachment
		Contempt/Sanctions

For any event for which there is a continuance or a postponement, the **continuance/postponement reason** should be provided. A common list is provided, but some will not apply to services or evaluations (e.g. court closed).

A list of values is provided for **evaluation type**, but not all are applicable to all case types

The **warrant reasons** primarily apply to criminal traffic, and juvenile cases, though *violation of conditions* can be used for non-compliance in probate cases.

Tab 9: Charges

The **filing charge body** of law is usually the state statute but may also be county or municipal ordinances or other code violations.

The **filing charge degree detailed** and **disposition charge degree detailed** will vary by jurisdiction but is a modifier of the **filing or disposition charge degree**. Examples include Felony 1 or Felony A.

Record transmitted to SDLA is usually only relevant if the conviction or plea relates to a driving-related offense.

Date transmitted to crime information center is relevant only if the offense is eligible. Many juvenile offenses are not transmitted to the crime information center.

Because there may be multiple pleas in a case, the history of **plea type** and **plea date** should be maintained.

The following definitions are provided for **charge dispositions**.

Charge disposition	Definition
Bindover/Transfer	The charge is transferred to another court (typically from a limited jurisdiction to a general jurisdiction court) after a finding of probable cause at a preliminary hearing. Also use this if a case is transferred to another jurisdiction.
Conviction at trial	Guilt was established at trial.
Guilty Plea	Guilt was established by plea.
Acquittal	Defendant was found not responsible for the charges at trial.
Entry into a problem-solving court docket	Defendant was ordered to attend a problem-solving court (e.g. drug court, DWI court, veterans' court, mental health court) either pre- or post-adjudication.
Diversion (not to a problem-solving court docket)	Disposition was withheld pending completion of a formal diversion program.
Continued without a finding	Disposition deferred in anticipation of dismissal if conditions are met outside of a formal diversion program (e.g. adjournment in contemplation of dismissal).
Dismissed/Nolle Prosequi	Charges were dismissed by the court or dropped by the prosecutor prior to adjudication/disposition.

Tab 10: Pretrial-Intake

Risk assessment scores can be a numeric score if the name of the **risk assessment instrument** is also provided. The **risk assessment score** may also be a category, which is typically high, medium, or low risk.

A *violation of a technical condition of pretrial release* of a **pre-adjudication detention reason** in juvenile or a **pretrial release revocation reason** in criminal or traffic may include not reporting to supervision, having a positive drug screen, having contact with known delinquent of criminal associates, or violation of a no contact order.

Tab 11: Diversion

The **diversion program point of entry** is relative to the adjudication or plea.

The **diversion exit type** indicates why the person left the diversion program.

Successful completion includes graduating or receiving a successful discharge from a program.

A *neutral* value indicates that the participant did not successfully complete the program requirements but exited the program without prejudice (e.g. as result of death or illness). These are often termed "administrative discharges."

An *unsuccessful exit* indicates that the person left the program with prejudice, without completing the program requirements.

Tab 12: Civil Judgment Detail

The purpose of these data elements is to provide more detailed information about the outcome of civil cases.

Tab 13: Sanctions

The **sentence type** should include all sanctions provided in a criminal or traffic case.

The **sentence conditions** value is a text field. This is a place to capture conditions such as suspension or revocation of driver's license, sex offender registration, and firearms eligibility. Because of the great variability in cases and practice, it is left as open text.

Like **sentence type**, **monetary penalty type** may include more than one response (e.g. a defendant may receive a *fine* and need to pay *court costs*).

Disposition types for juveniles may also include more than one response.

A **blended disposition flag** indicates those cases, heard in juvenile court, that include both a sanction in juvenile court and the potential of a sanction in the adult system when the juvenile reaches a certain age. This occurs in some jurisdictions when a juvenile is found responsible for an offense and may be sentenced as an adult upon reaching the age of majority if he/she is not deemed rehabilitated.

TAB 14: Dependency Permanency

Although a dependency case frequently involves multiple children, the values in this tab should be collected for each child. The values in the **plan selection type** are based on the federal guidelines spelled out in the Adoption and Safe Families Act. A case may have multiple **plan selection dates** and **plan selection types** and each date should be associated with the related plan.

The **case closed date** (from Tab 1: Case information) will typically be the same as the last **child case closure date** in the case.

Tab 15: Probate Review & Monitor

Guardianship/conservatorship may stay on the court's docket for a period of many years. Courts have an obligation to monitor these cases over time, and these data fields are related to the monitoring process. Assets are generally considered in three categories: financial assets, personal property, and real property. **Total assets value at appointment** and **current total assets value** can be a calculated field based upon the three categories of assets.

Total assets value at appointment	This field can be used to calculate the total value of personal property, real property, and financial assets, or it can be used to report the total value of all assets if more specific information is not collected.
Current total asset value	This element may be pulled from event detail elements. Although best practice is to maintain a historical record of the financial assets this element represents the current financial assets at the time of the data pull.

Tab 16: Post Trial

Tab 16 pertains to post-trial events in criminal, traffic, and juvenile cases, most typically violations of probation. This is intended only to capture events that come back before the court. More than one value may be collected for **violation outcome** when *new charges filed* and *probation revocation* both result from the same event.

Tab 17: ADR

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) can occur in multiple case types, and these fields are intended to communicate the timing and outcome of ADR. The **hearing/event outcome** and **continuance/ postponement reason** use the same values as in Tab 7: Hearings and Events.

For any event for which there is a continuance or a postponement, the **continuance/postponement reason** should be provided. A common list is provided, but some will apply to hearings but not to services or evaluations (e.g. court closed).

The **ADR date** is the date on which the ADR was scheduled. Each **ADR date** should also have a **hearing/ event outcome**, which will indicate if that ADR session was *held, continued, cancelled, or postponed or rescheduled*. There will be more than one ADR date if the event was continued, postponed, or rescheduled. If the ADR was continued or postponed, provide the **continuance/postponement reason**. Not all the continuance/postponement reasons are applicable to ADR.