



# **BEXAR COUNTY**

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PLANNING & RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT

## **BEXAR COUNTY JUDICIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT**

### **CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURTS FY 2009-10 ANNUAL**

#### **JUDICIAL SYSTEM WORKLOAD AND EFFICIENCY MEASURES**

Prepared by:  
Planning and Resource Management  
Budget Division

**Brief Summary:**

This part of the report is based FY 2009-2010 between the months of October and September. The report only includes criminal district courts and their presiding judges in the Bexar County judicial system, which includes the following:

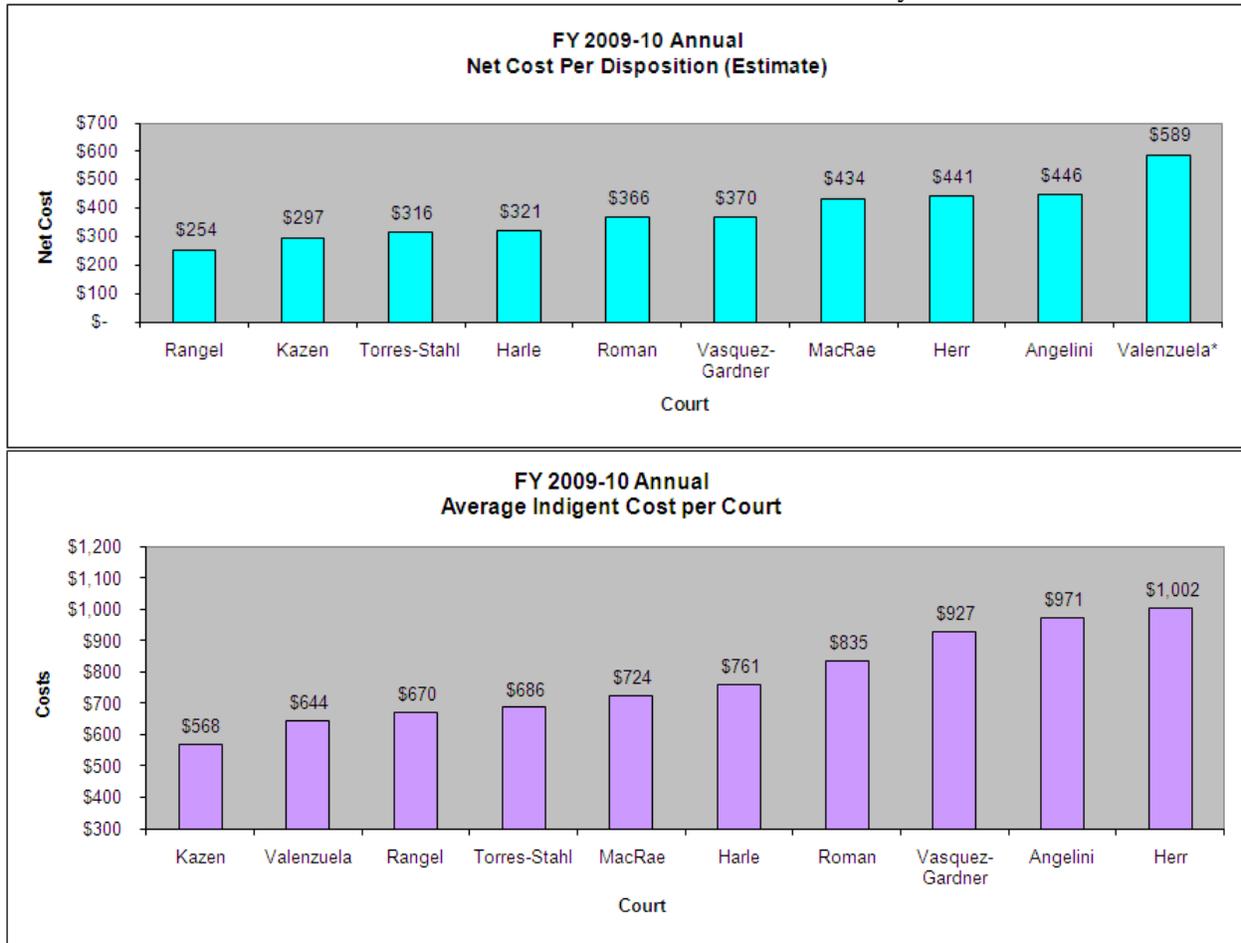
- 144<sup>th</sup> Criminal District Court: Judge Catherine Torres-Stahl
- 175<sup>th</sup> Criminal District Court: Judge Mary Roman
- 186<sup>th</sup> Criminal District Court: Judge Maria Teresa (Tessa) Herr
- 187<sup>th</sup> Criminal District Court: Judge Raymond Angelini
- 226<sup>th</sup> Criminal District Court: Judge Sid L. Harle
- 227<sup>th</sup> Criminal District Court: Judge Philip Kazen
- 290<sup>th</sup> Criminal District Court: Judge Sharon MacRae
- 379<sup>th</sup> Criminal District Court: Judge Ron Rangel
- 399<sup>th</sup> Criminal District Court: Judge Juanita Vasquez-Gardner
- 437<sup>th</sup> Criminal District Court: Judge Lori Valenzuela

## Measure 1: Cost per Disposition

**Definition:** The net cost of disposing of a single case.

**Method:** Cost per disposition is the net cost of the court divided by the number of dispositions. Net cost per disposition includes revenue collected and costs between October 2009 and September 2010 from each court. This measure allows the court to compare their average cost per case to other courts, enabling the participants to make adjustments to court practices where applicable. Indigent defense is included in the net cost per disposition. Of the total expenses for the court system, 61 percent are indigent defense costs. The second graph represents the average net cost (revenue collected versus cost) per court appointed attorney assignment. Other personnel are budgeted within other respective County departments, such as the District Attorney’s Office, Bexar County Sheriff’s Office, and the District Clerk’s Office. Positions with benefits include three prosecutors, two court clerks, three bailiffs, one advocate, and one investigator for each court. Specialized District Attorney teams involving family violence and alcohol related incidents are also included.

**Analysis and Interpretation:** The following page shows a court by court comparison of Cost per Case based on FY 2009-10. Courts are listed in order of the least to the most costly.



**FY 2009-10  
Annual Cost per Disposition**

<b>Court Number</b>	<b>Judge</b>	<b>Operating Expenses</b>	<b>Ct. Appointed Atty. Costs</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>Indigent Defense Revenues</b>	<b>Court Fine Revenues</b>	<b>Total County Revenues</b>	<b>Net Cost/ (Savings)</b>	<b>Number of Dispositions</b>	<b>Net Cost/ (Savings) per Disposition</b>
379	Rangel	\$ 224,658	\$ 622,275	\$ 846,933	\$ 48,829	\$ 320,003	\$ 368,832	\$ 478,101	1882	\$ 254
227	Kazen	\$ 220,107	\$ 522,938	\$ 743,045	\$ 44,478	\$ 286,386	\$ 330,864	\$ 412,181	1390	\$ 297
144	Torres-Stahl	\$ 236,110	\$ 619,178	\$ 855,288	\$ 39,522	\$ 304,512	\$ 344,034	\$ 511,254	1620	\$ 316
226	Harle	\$ 225,086	\$ 742,495	\$ 967,581	\$ 57,522	\$ 309,737	\$ 367,259	\$ 600,322	1869	\$ 321
175	Roman	\$ 219,256	\$ 640,572	\$ 859,828	\$ 20,701	\$ 247,606	\$ 268,307	\$ 591,521	1614	\$ 366
399	Vasquez-Gardner	\$ 239,647	\$ 672,618	\$ 912,265	\$ 22,461	\$ 256,728	\$ 279,189	\$ 633,076	1713	\$ 370
290	MacRae	\$ 244,429	\$ 515,940	\$ 760,369	\$ 8,531	\$ 91,292	\$ 99,823	\$ 660,546	1522	\$ 434
186	Herr	\$ 252,724	\$ 967,018	\$ 1,219,742	\$ 41,927	\$ 341,186	\$ 383,113	\$ 836,629	1895	\$ 441
187	Angelini	\$ 241,149	\$ 971,918	\$ 1,213,067	\$ 37,521	\$ 328,350	\$ 365,871	\$ 847,196	1899	\$ 446
437	Valenzuela*	\$ 172,889	\$ 254,773	\$ 427,662	\$ 2,367	\$ 28,028	\$ 30,395	\$ 397,267	675	\$ 589
	Administration	\$1,848,978	N/A	\$ 1,848,978	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ 1,848,978	N/A	N/A
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,125,033</b>	<b>\$6,529,725</b>	<b>\$10,654,758</b>	<b>\$323,859</b>	<b>\$2,513,828</b>	<b>\$2,837,687</b>	<b>\$ 7,817,071</b>	<b>16,079</b>	

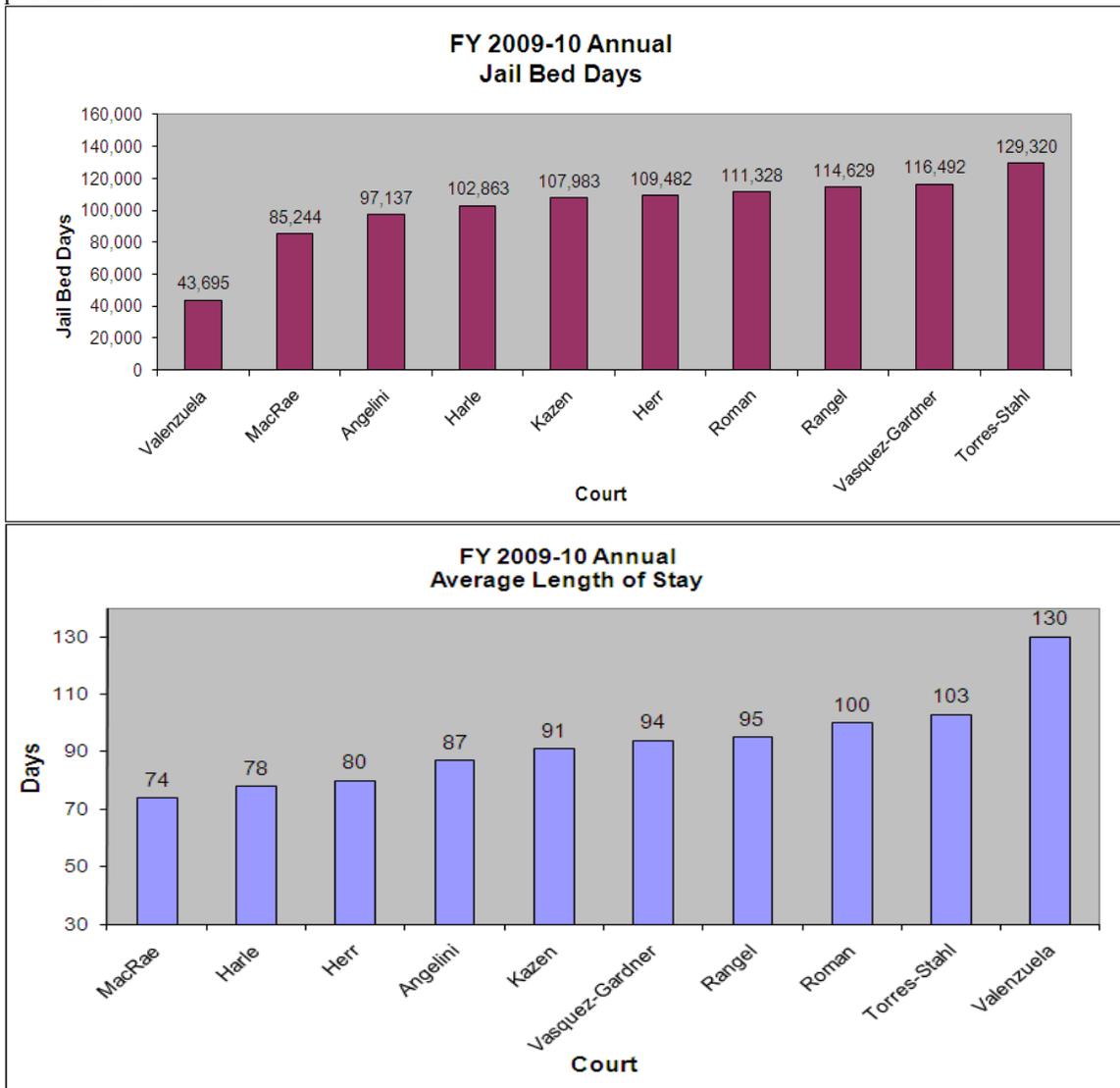
## Measure 2: Jail Bed Days

**Definition:** The number of jail bed days consumed.

**Method:** This information is retrieved from the Jail Track Management System. Analysis of jail bed days is helpful when making case management decisions regarding disposition. When implementing a differentiated case management system, it is important to measure current consumption and then measure it against the actual consumption after the implementation of the new system. The ultimate goal is expedited case disposition where appropriate, and the benefit is a reduction in jail bed days consumed. *Note: Motions to revoke probation are included.*

The average length of stay for inmates is calculated by totaling the number of jail bed days consumed from indictment to release and dividing by the number of inmates incarcerated.

**Analysis and Interpretation:** The following shows a court by court comparison of Jail Bed Days for FY 2009-10 from least jail bed days to the greatest jail bed days and the average length of stay per inmate.

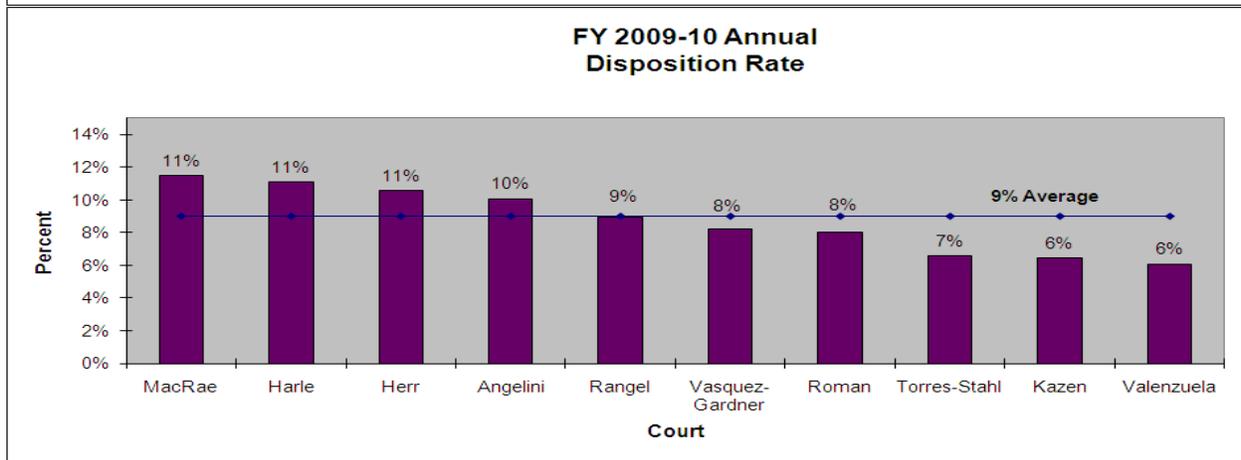
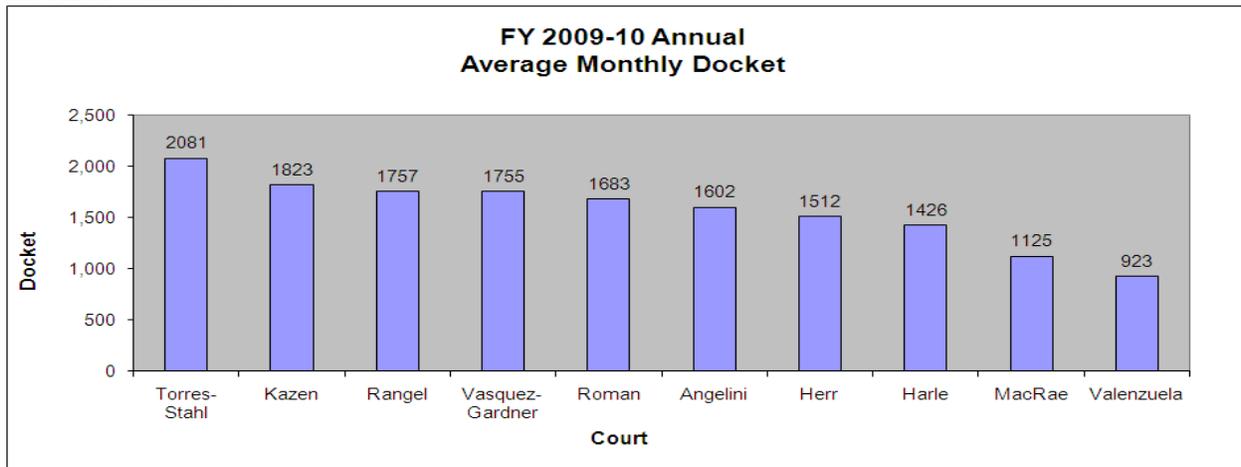


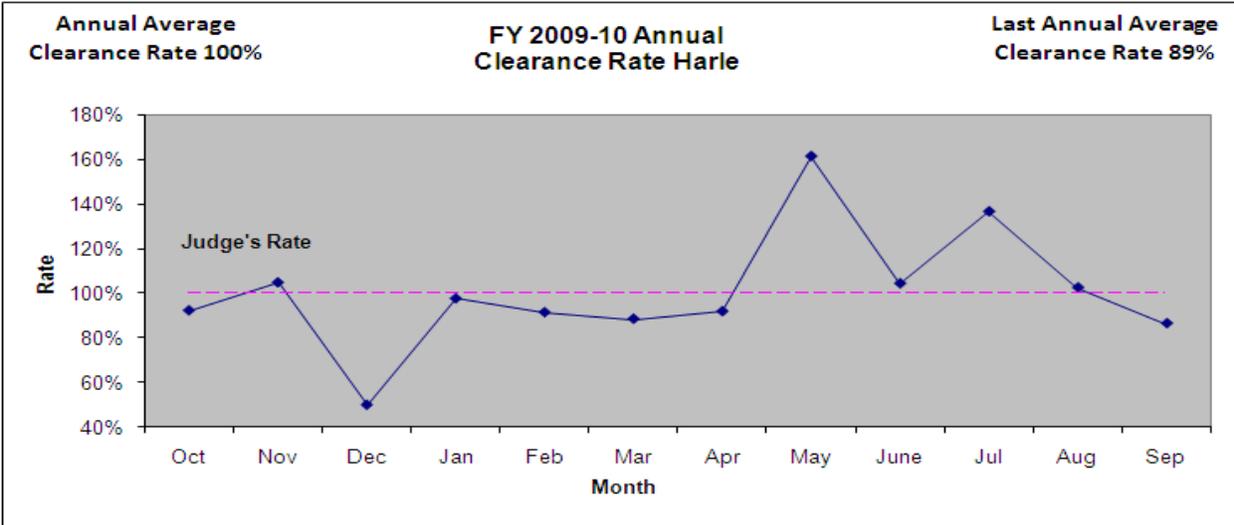
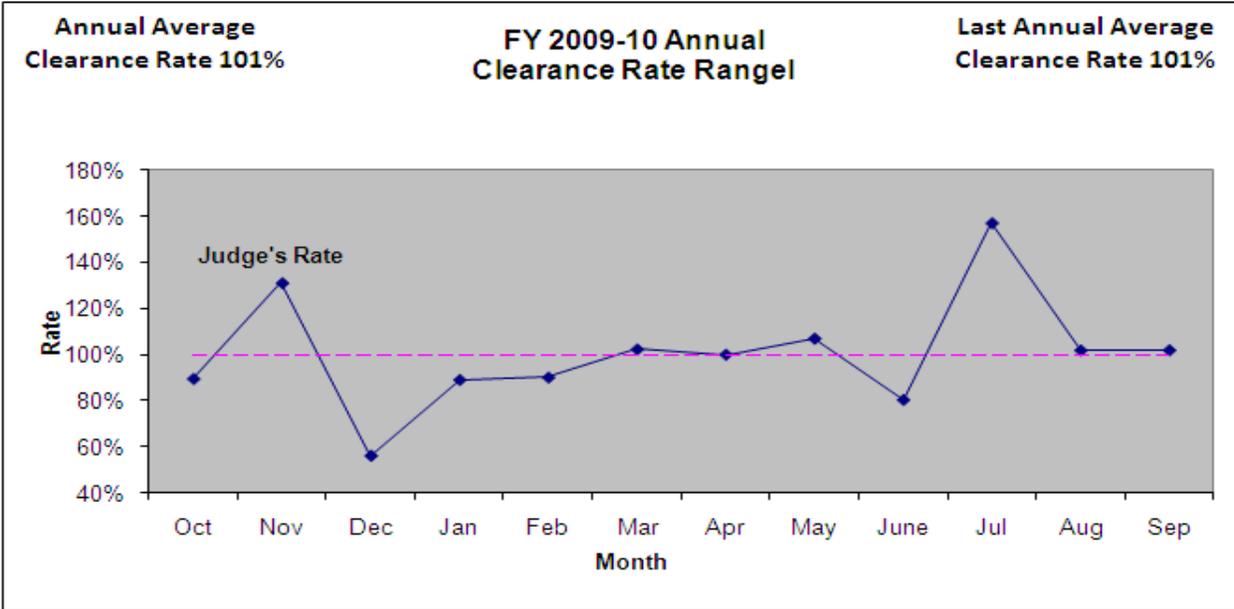
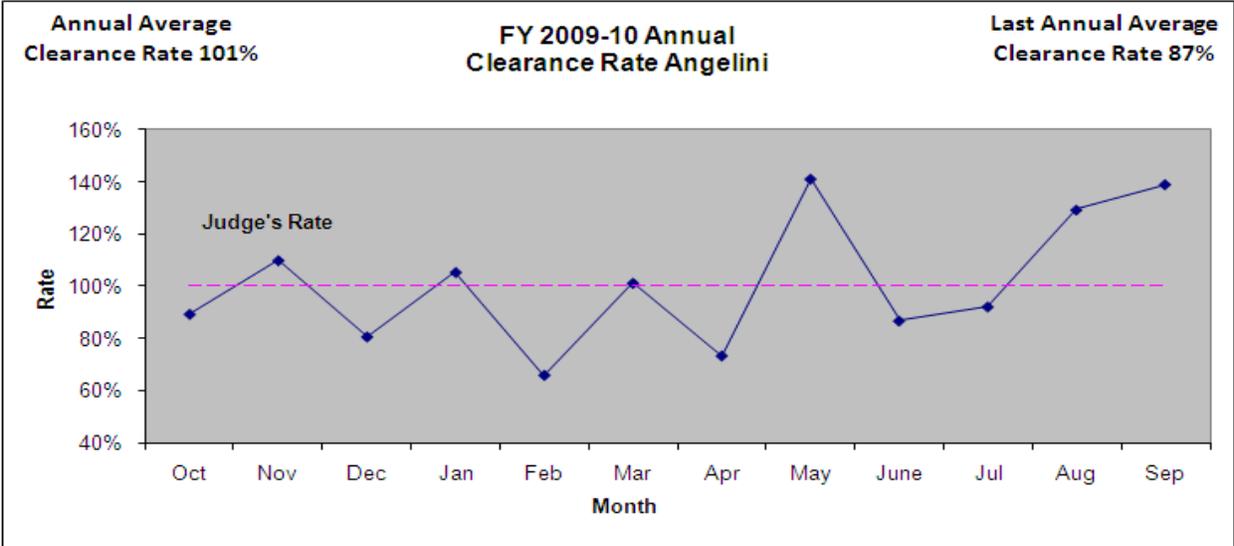
### Measure 3: Clearance Rates

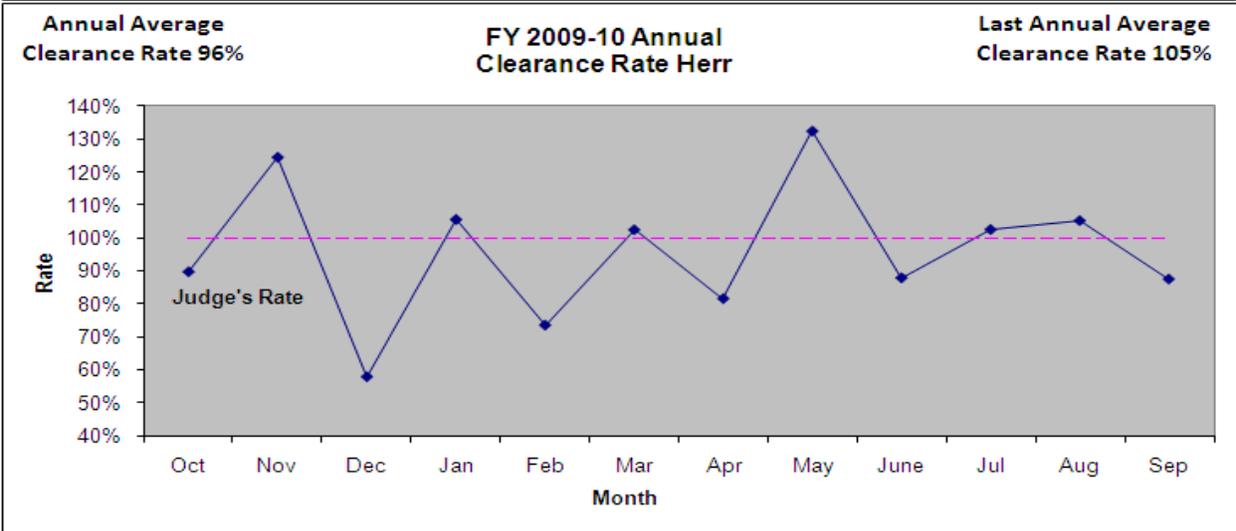
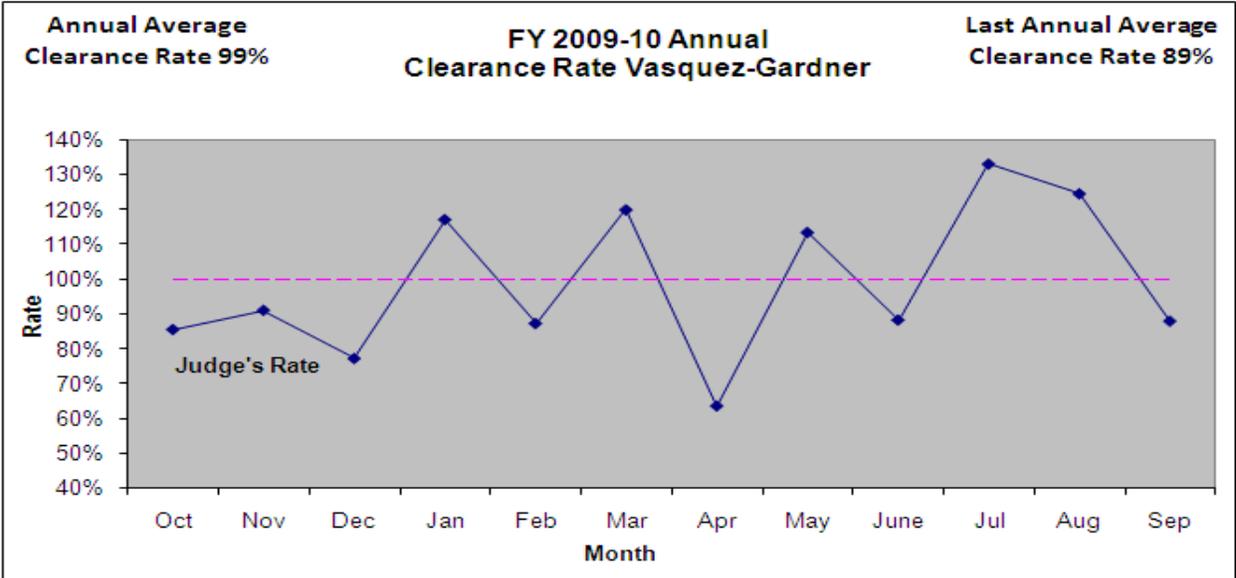
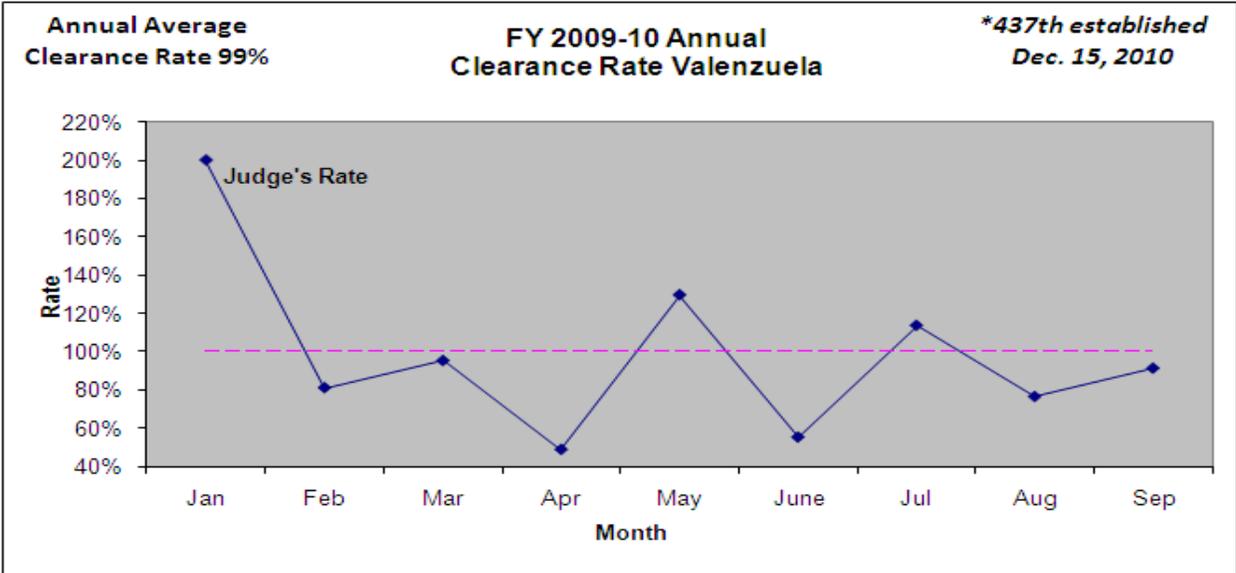
**Definition:** The number of disposed cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases.

**Method:** Clearance rates are measured using two variables, incoming cases and the number of cases disposed monthly. Incoming cases include new cases filed by information, new cases filed by indictment, other cases reaching docket (motions to revoke probation/deferred adjudication, shock probations returned from TDC, and transfers from other counties), internal cases transferred in, and removing cases transferred out. Motions to revoke probation are counted against the original court in which the case was disposed from. The number of outgoing cases includes all monthly dispositions. The first graph shows the average monthly docket, which portrays the workload for each court. The second graph shows the disposition rate for each court. This is determined by the number of cases disposed versus the *entire* docket. Certain dismissals have been removed this quarter to follow the Office of Court Administration guidelines, which include Case Dismissed, Dismissed-Deferred Adjudication, Dismissed-Deceased, Dismissed Reduced to Class C, and Dismissed and Reduced. These dismissals were removed because they have previously been counted as a disposition either through a plea or other conviction.

**Analysis and Interpretation:** The clearance rate is a measure of the incoming cases a court receives monthly compared to the total cases disposed of monthly. This measure portrays the court's ability to balance current caseload and incoming cases. A clearance rate of 100% represents a court that is currently maintaining the status quo. Above 100% represents a court that is disposing of more cases than it is receiving. Below 100% represents a court that is disposing of less cases than it is receiving. This measure is helpful in making case management decisions that will assist in the reduction of backlog. Additionally, the measure of the age of the case disposed assists the court in gauging their progress in comparison with the ABA standards.



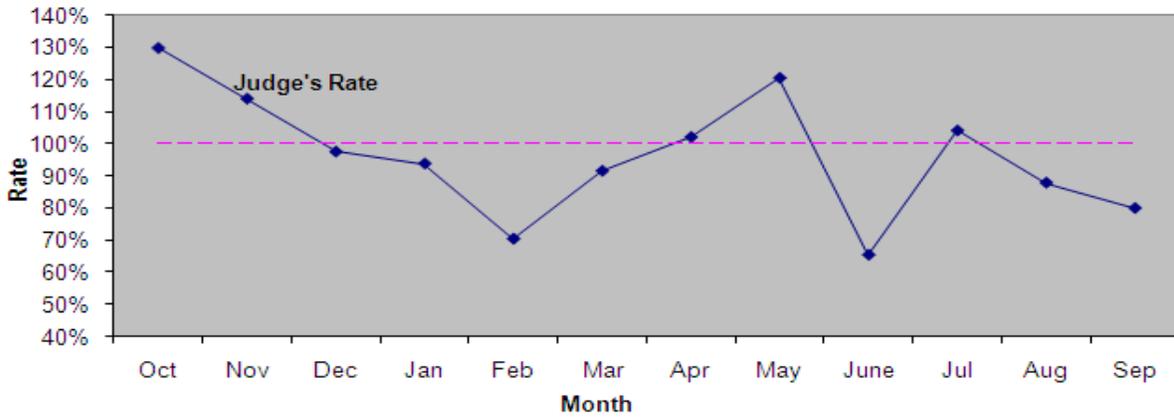




**Annual Average  
Clearance Rate 96%**

**FY 2009-10 Annual  
Clearance Rate MacRae**

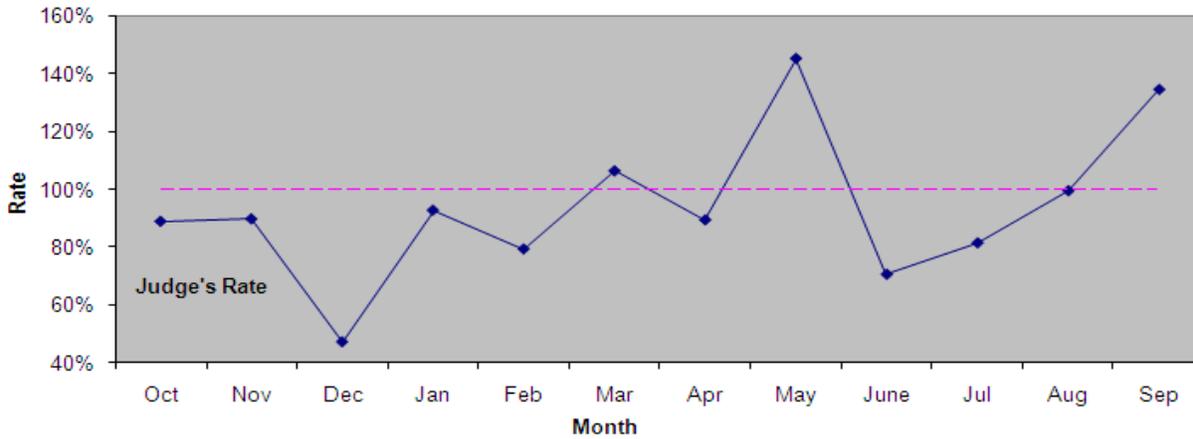
**Last Annual Average  
Clearance Rate 86%**



**Annual Average  
Clearance Rate 94%**

**FY 2009-10 Annual  
Clearance Rate Roman**

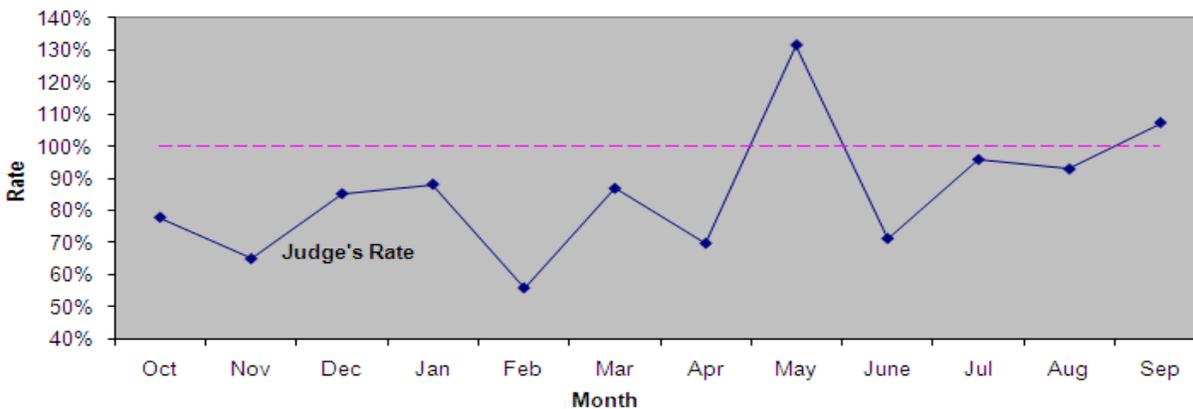
**Last Annual Average  
Clearance Rate 95%**



**Annual Average  
Clearance Rate 86%**

**FY 2009-10 Annual  
Clearance Rate Torres-Stahl**

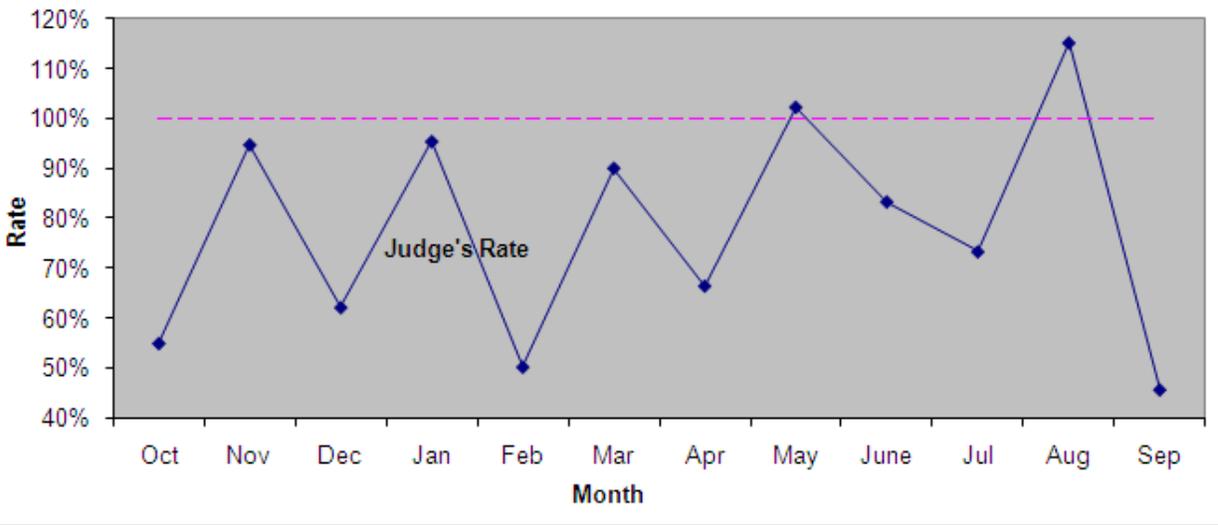
**Last Annual Average  
Clearance Rate 96%**



**Annual Average  
Clearance Rate 78%**

**FY 2009-10 Annual  
Clearance Rate Kazen**

**Last Annual Average  
Clearance Rate 95%**



## Measure 4: Time to Disposition

### Definitions:

**Time to Disposition:** The percentage of cases disposed or otherwise resolved within established time frames. This is a comparison of data from *age of disposed cases* and only considers cases that are disposed, not the full docket.

**Average Monthly Disposition Rate:** The number of cases disposed on a monthly basis compared to the total number of cases on the docket, which is noted in each Time to Disposition chart.

**Average Monthly Docket:** The number of cases on the docket per month averaged through the months reported within the established time frame, which is noted in each Time to Disposition chart.

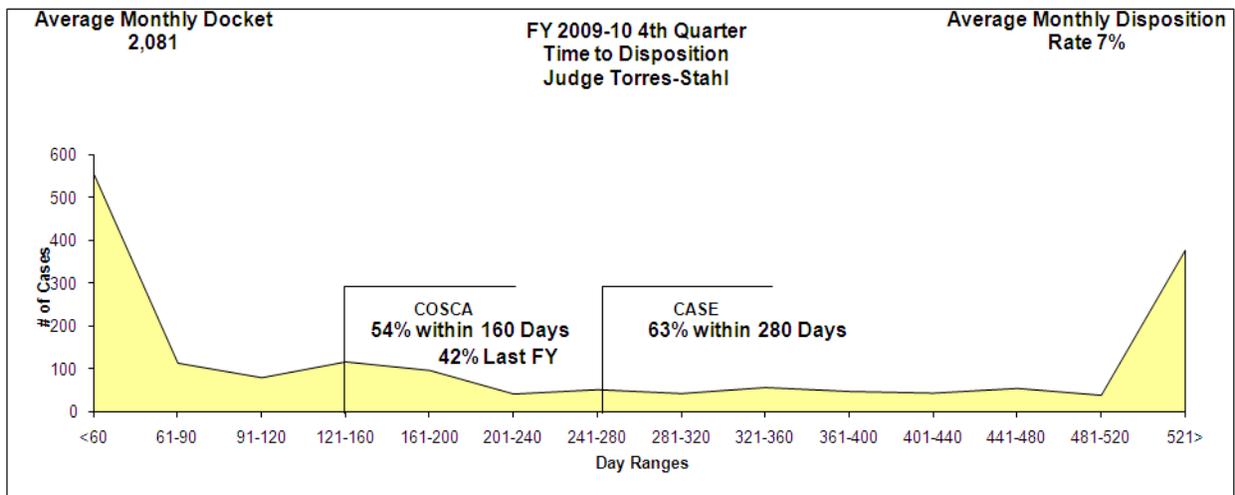
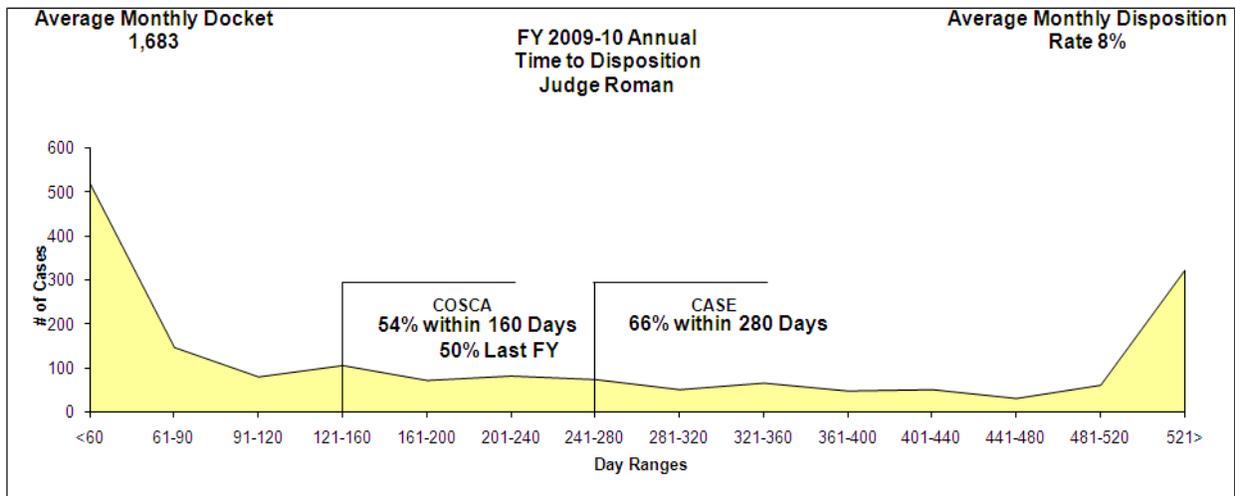
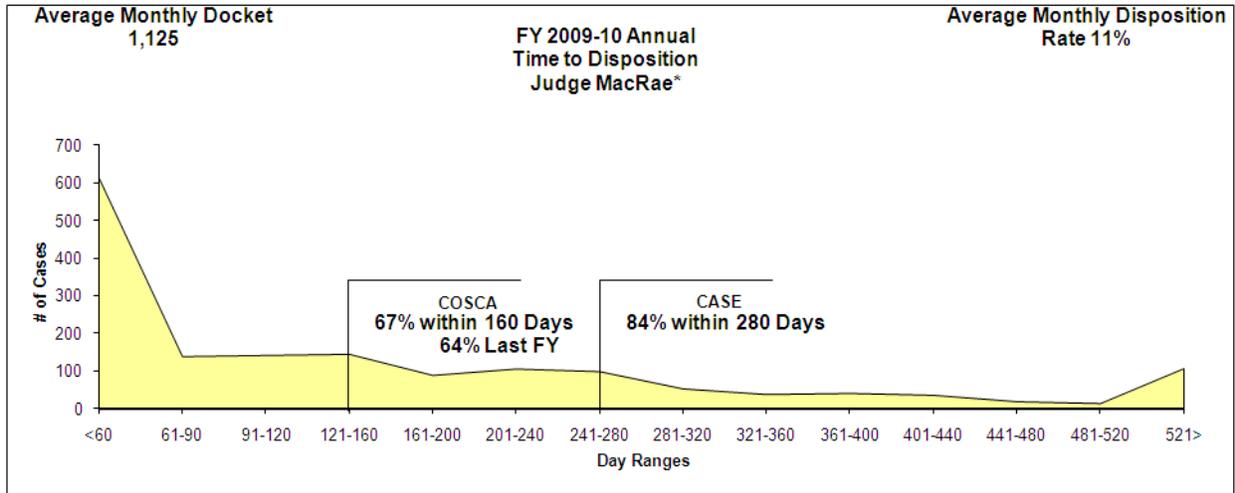
The case processing time standards published by the American Bar Association (ABA) and those published by the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) provide a starting point for determining guidelines. According to the National Center for State Courts, “the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) and the American Bar Association (ABA) have offered specific time standards for case processing.” The Criminal District Courts will be implementing a Felony Case Plan (CASE) that sets the time standards for Bexar County. The applied time frame for this measure will use the Standard Track time frame, in which a case can be disposed of between 275 days and 285 days. The most similar range in the reported data is between 241 and 281 days, which will be used for this measure.

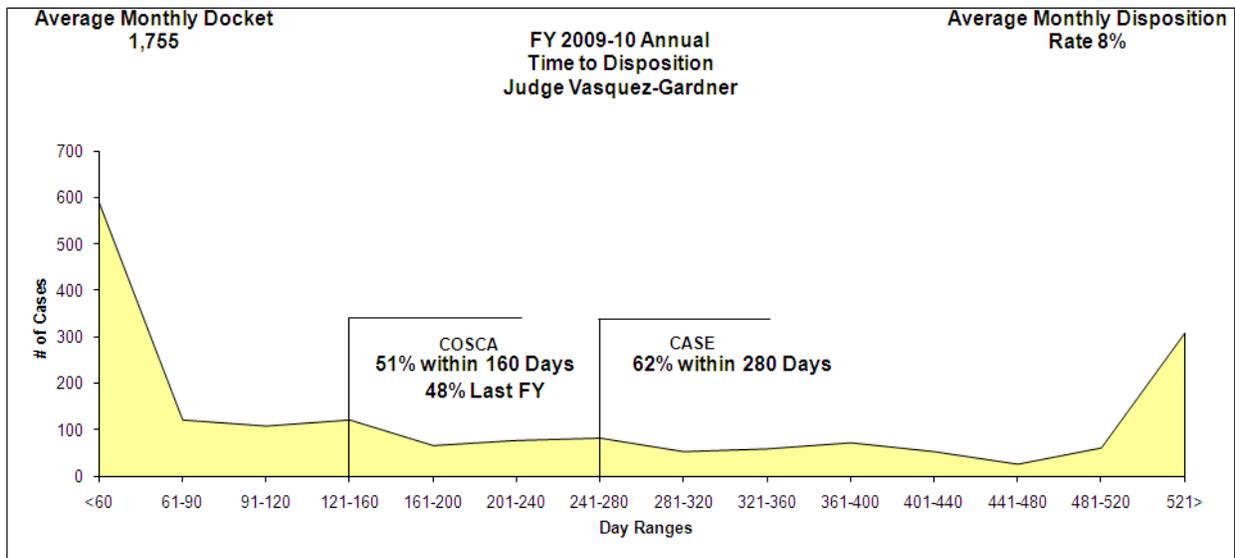
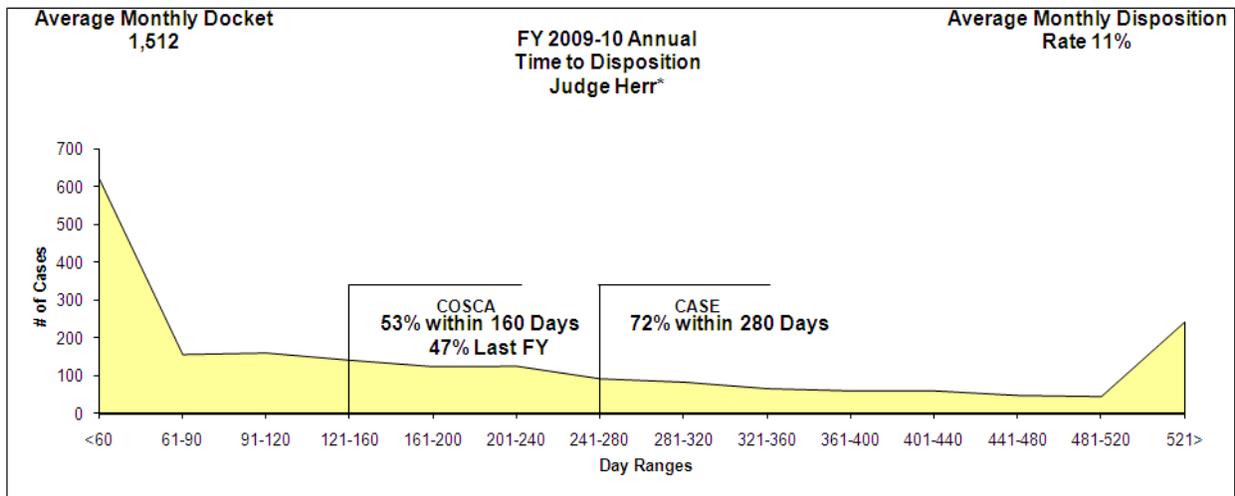
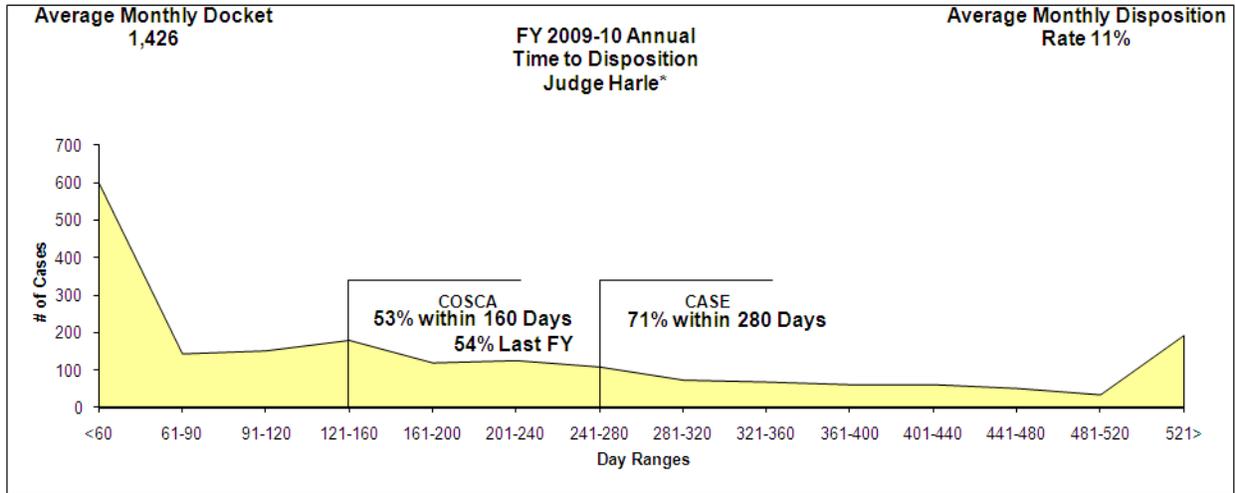
**Analysis and Interpretation:** The disposition rate represents the actual day to day workings of the Court. It is a measure of the judicial workload. This calculation takes into consideration the disposition of cases on the existing docket in addition to the other matters addressed by the Court on an average day, including Motions to Revoke, Shock Probation, Motions for New Trial and Motions to Adjudicate. The disposition rate portrays the flow of the variety of judicial proceedings routinely before the Court.

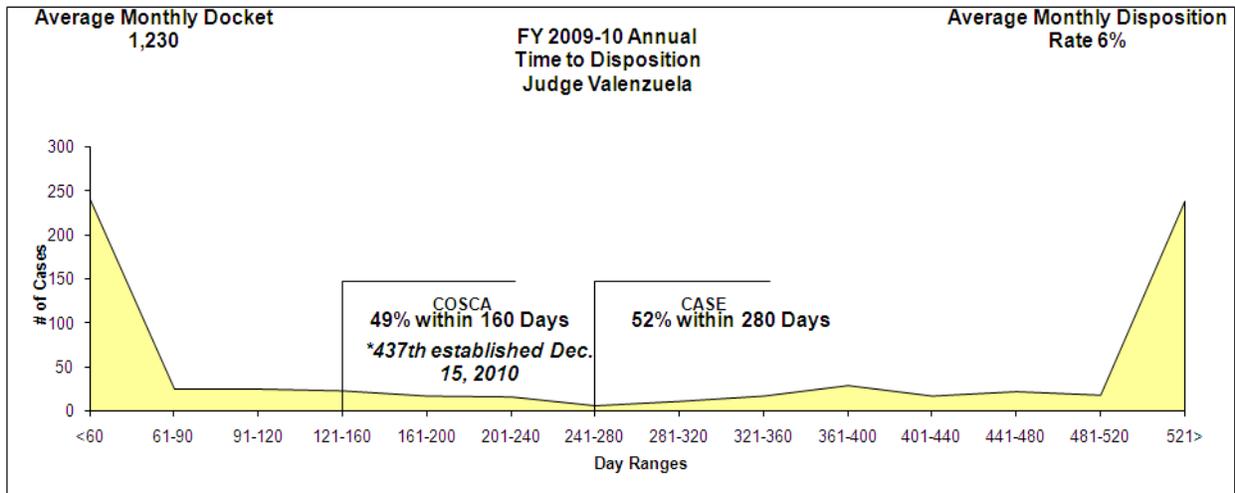
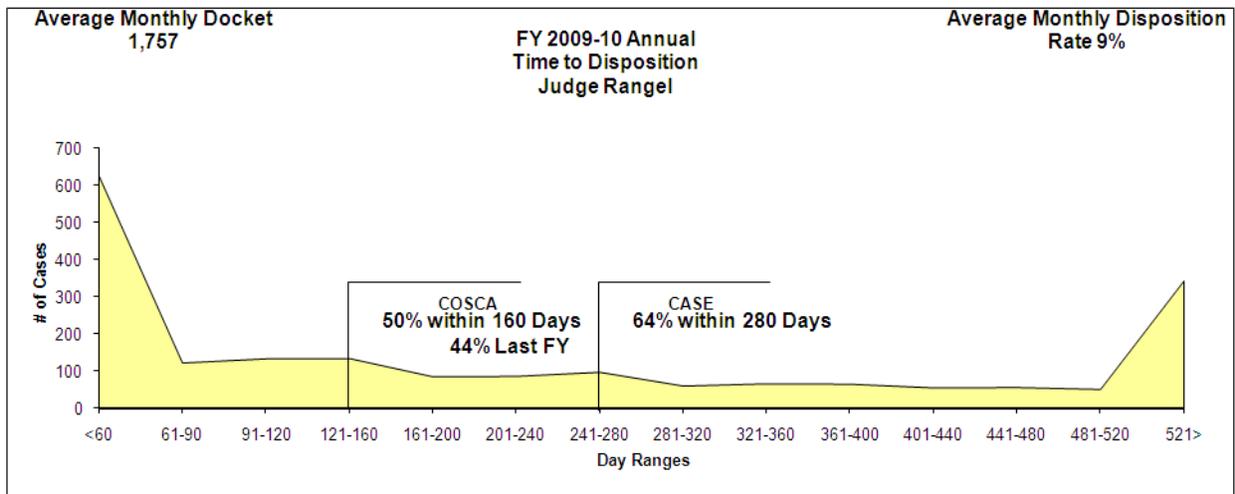
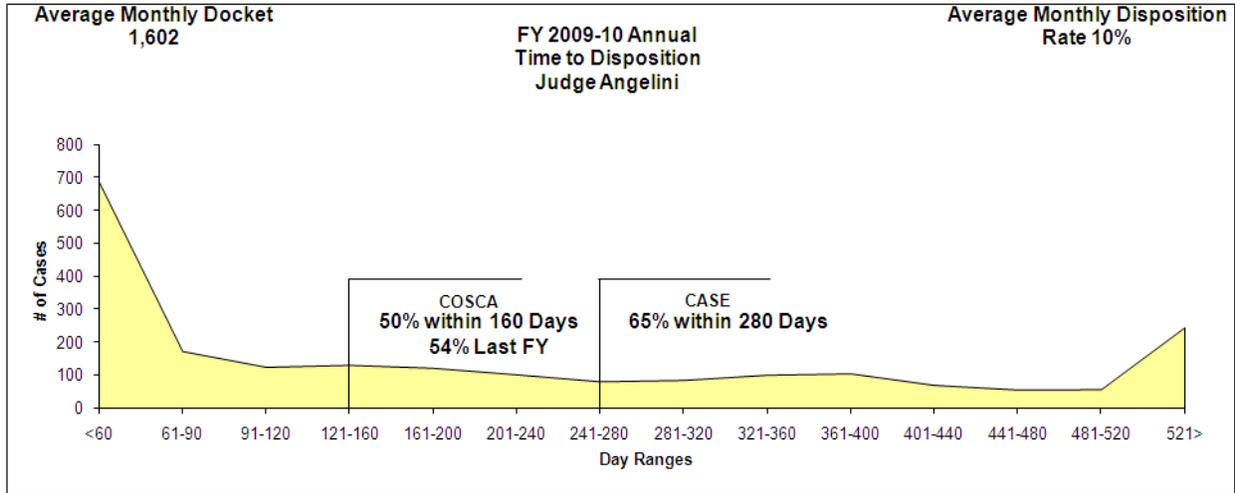
The Bexar County Criminal Justice Information System report categorized the age of disposed cases in the following categories for Criminal District Courts:

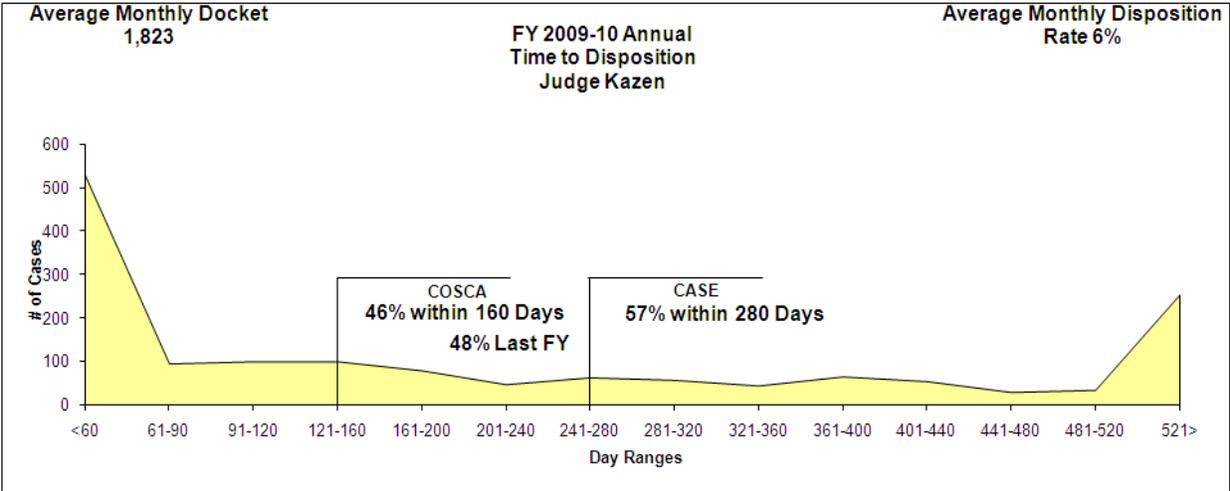
60 Days or Less	281-320 Days
61-90 Days	321-360 Days
91-120 Days	361-400 Days
121-160 Days	401-440 Days
161-200 Days	441-480 Days
201-240Days	481-520 Days
241-280 Days	521 Days & Over

*\*CASE management system implemented February 2010 in Judge Herr’s court, Judge Harle’s court, and Judge MacRae’s courts.*







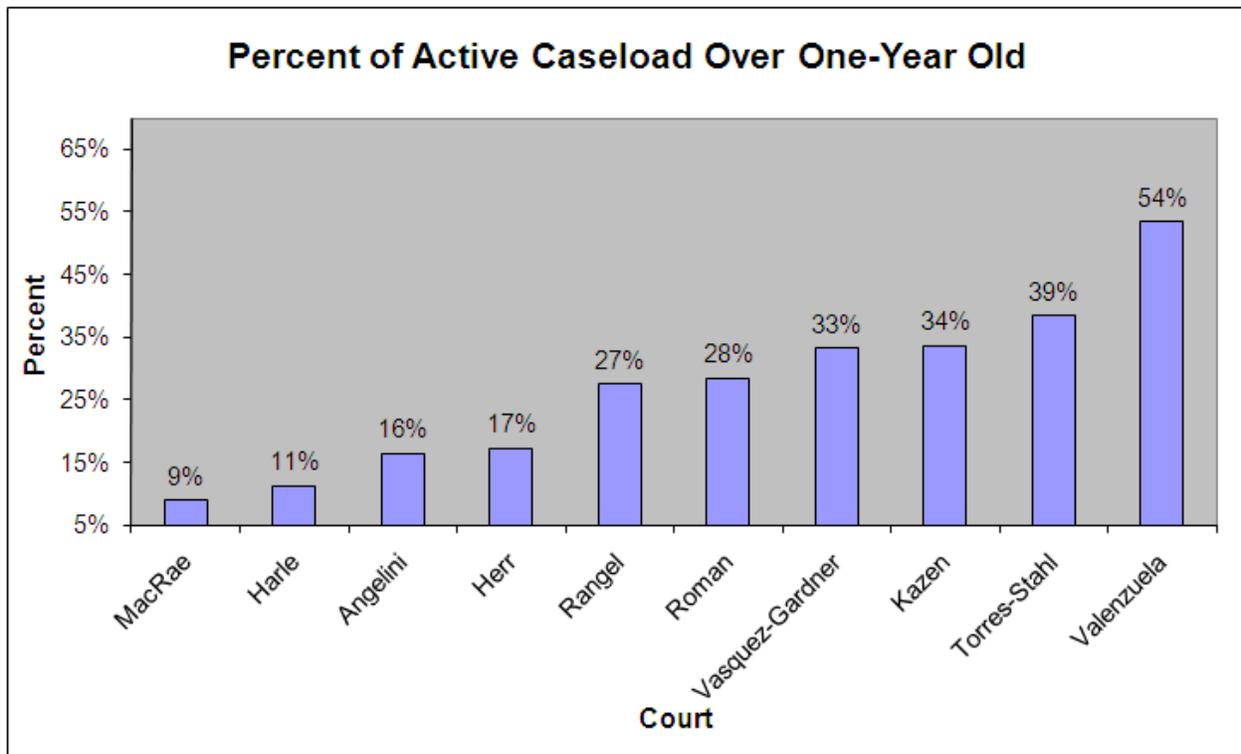


## Measure 5: Age of Active Cases Pending Caseload

**Definition:** The age of active cases pending before the court, which is measured as the number of days from filing until the time of measurement.

**Method:** For each case type being analyzed, the report calculates the time, in days, from filing of the case until the date established for the reporting period being examined (September 30, 2010).

**Analysis and Interpretation:** The age of the active case pending measure allows a court to view their progress in achieving a disposition rate more in line with the ABA standards. It is a helpful tool in docket management allowing the court to make the necessary adjustments in case administration to achieve a reduction in disposition rate more in line with ABA standards. *Note: Fugitives are not included in the data. Cases include what district courts consider open felony cases.*

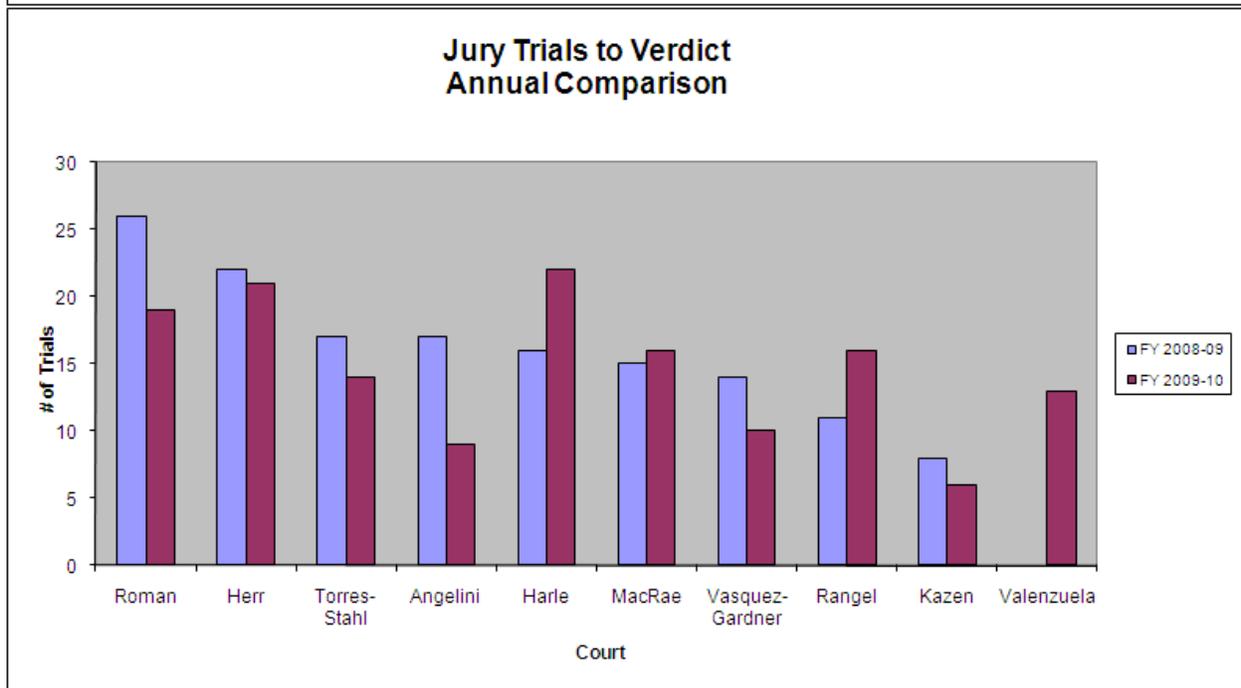
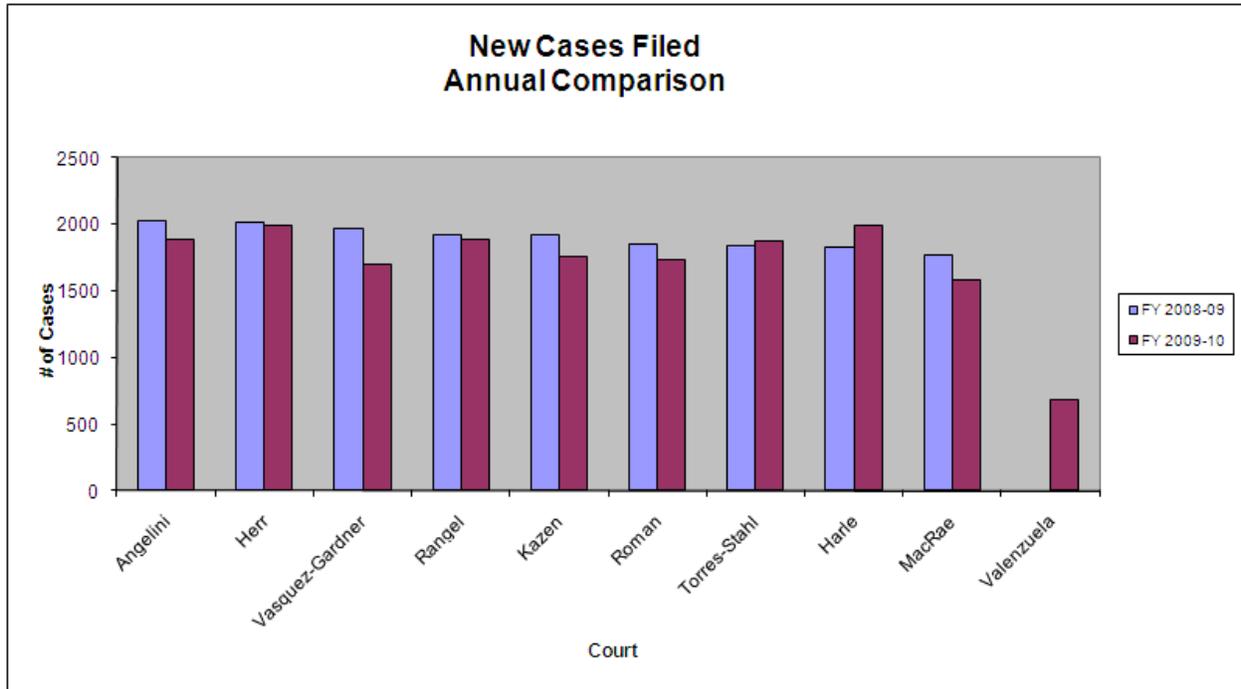


## Measure 6: Caseload Comparison

**Definition:** The amount of new cases added and the amount of jury trials that went to verdict.

**Method:** This information is retrieved from the Bexar County Criminal Justice Information System reported to the Office of Court Administration.

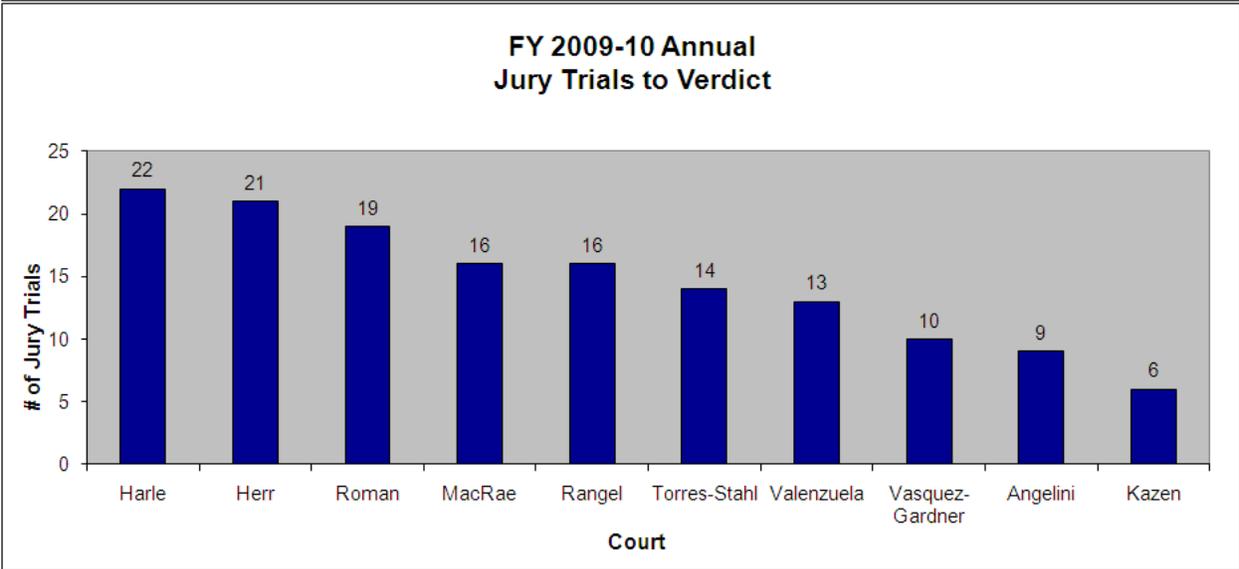
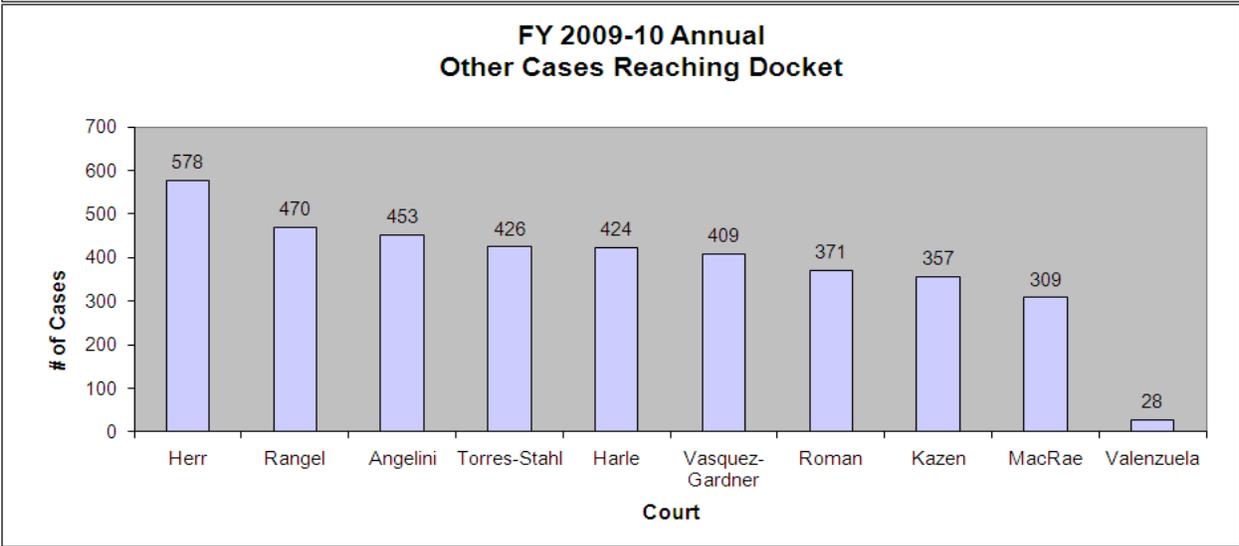
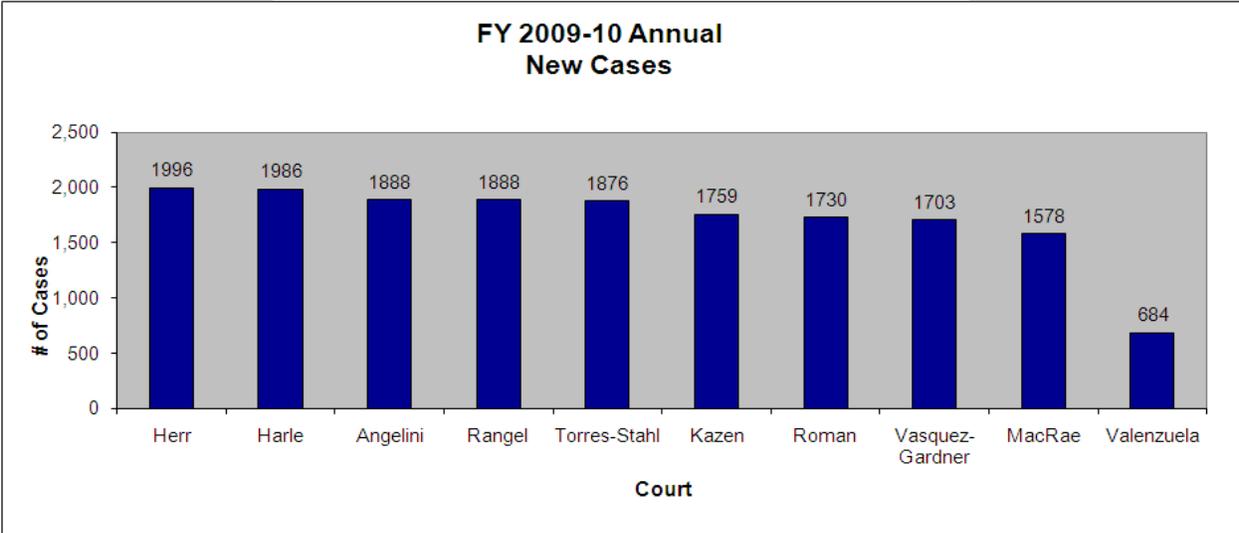
**Analysis and Interpretation:** The following shows an aggregate comparison of Caseload between FY 2008-09 and FY 2009-10.



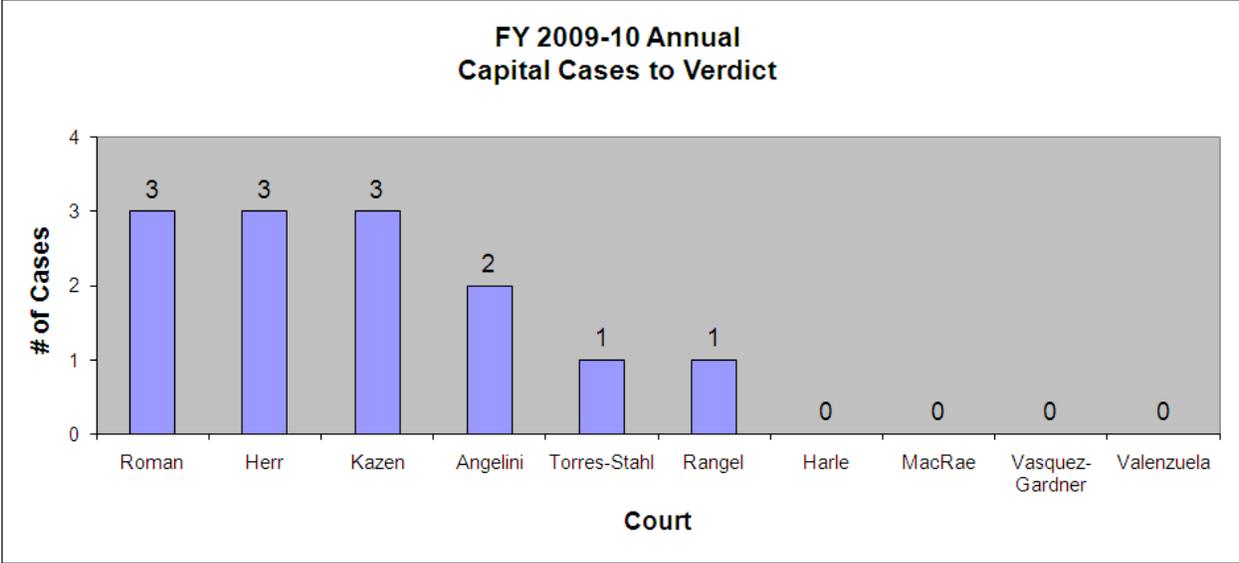
## BEXAR COUNTY JUDICIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT APPENDIX

This Appendix is broken into two sections, FY 2009-10 data between October and September and age of disposed cases. The purpose of this appendix is to further analyze specific data involved with measuring court performance.

**FY 2009-10 Annual District Court Caseload**



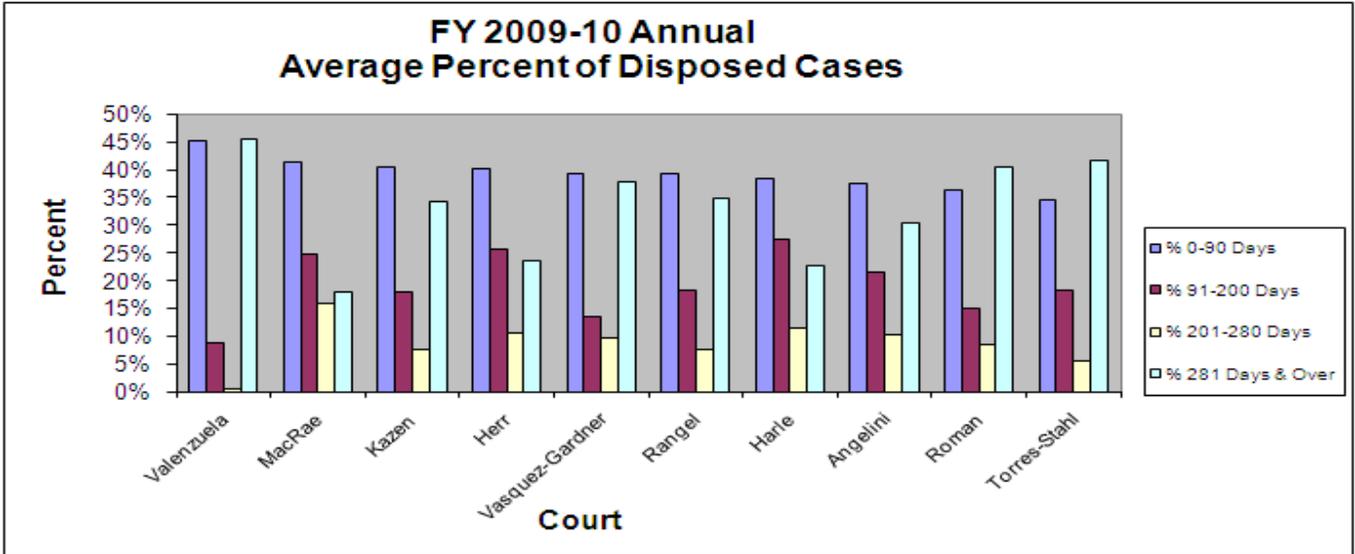
**FY 2009-10 Annual District Court Caseload**



**Aged Cases Disposed  
(Percent)  
Criminal District Courts  
Annual**

**INDICATOR: Court Comparison of age of cases**

<b>Court</b>	<b>% 0-90 Days</b>	<b>% 91-200 Days</b>	<b>% 201-280 Days</b>	<b>% 281 Days &amp; Over</b>
Valenzuela	45%	9%	0%	46%
MacRae	41%	25%	16%	18%
Kazen	40%	18%	8%	34%
Herr	40%	26%	10%	24%
Vasquez-Gardner	39%	13%	10%	38%
Rangel	39%	18%	8%	35%
Harle	38%	27%	11%	23%
Angelini	38%	22%	10%	30%
Roman	36%	15%	8%	40%
Torres-Stahl	34%	18%	5%	42%



## **Sources:**

### **Measure 1: Cost per Disposition**

Bexar County Adult Probation Information System State Fiscal Year Report: Felony  
Bexar County Criminal Justice Information System: District Court Criminal Section Summary  
Report  
Estimates by Planning and Resource Management

### **Measure 2: Jail Bed Days**

Jail Track Management System

### **Measure 3: Clearance Rate**

Bexar County Criminal Justice Information System: District Court Criminal Section Summary  
Report

### **Measure 4: Time to Disposition**

Bexar County Criminal Justice Information System: District Court Criminal Section Summary  
Report  
National Center for State Courts

### **Measure 5: Age of Active Cases Pending**

Bexar County Criminal Justice Information System

### **Measure 6: Caseload Comparison**

Bexar County Criminal Justice Information System: District Court Criminal Section Summary  
Report

### **Appendix:**

Bexar County Criminal Justice Information System: District Court Criminal Section Summary  
Report