

## MISSION STATEMENT

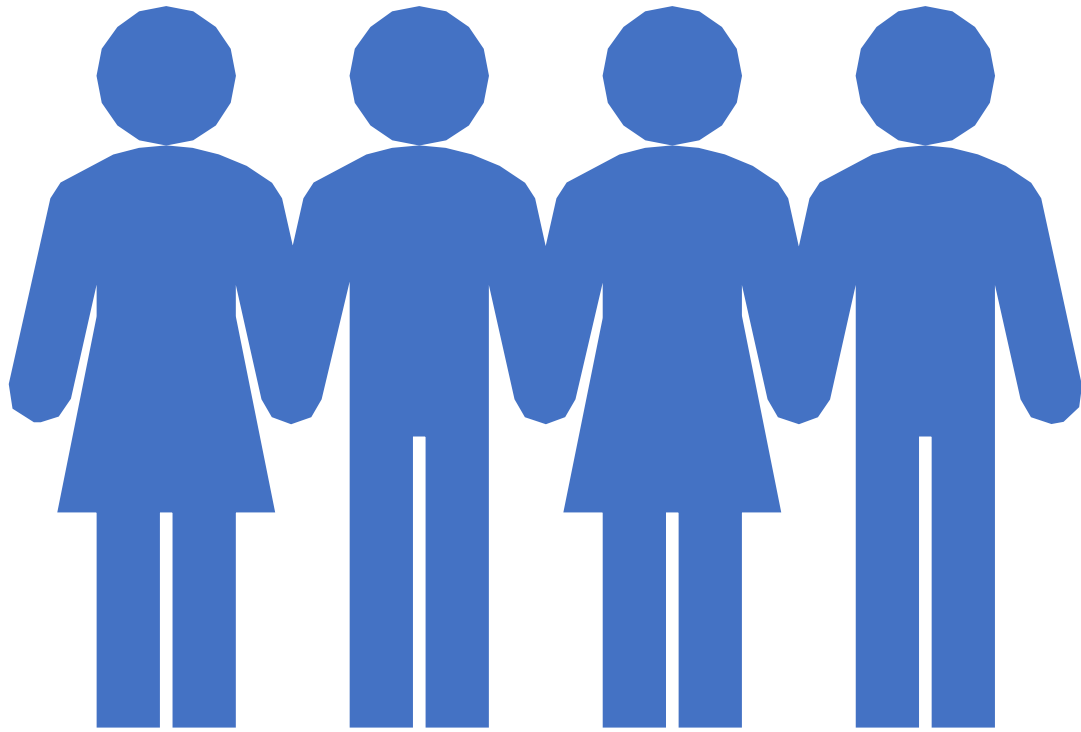
The 63rd District Court is a county funded independent branch of government **committed to the prompt, courteous and fair dispensation of justice** by adjudicating cases in a timely manner using **effective and efficient** case management techniques, adhering to the highest standards that **maintain the statutory and constitutional rights of all citizens**, monitoring the enforcement of judgments, and being responsible stewards of public funds.



## 63<sup>RD</sup> District Court

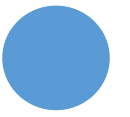


- Civil suits involving \$25,000 or less;
- Adult criminal misdemeanor offenses punishable by up to one year's imprisonment;
- Civil infractions; Traffic violations; Landlord/tenant disputes; Small claims (involving \$6,500 or less); and Land Contract forfeitures.
- Issue arrest and search warrants,
- set bail and accept bond,
- conduct misdemeanor and felony arraignments,
- preside over preliminary examinations for felony offenses,
- perform civil marriage ceremonies.



# Team Oriented

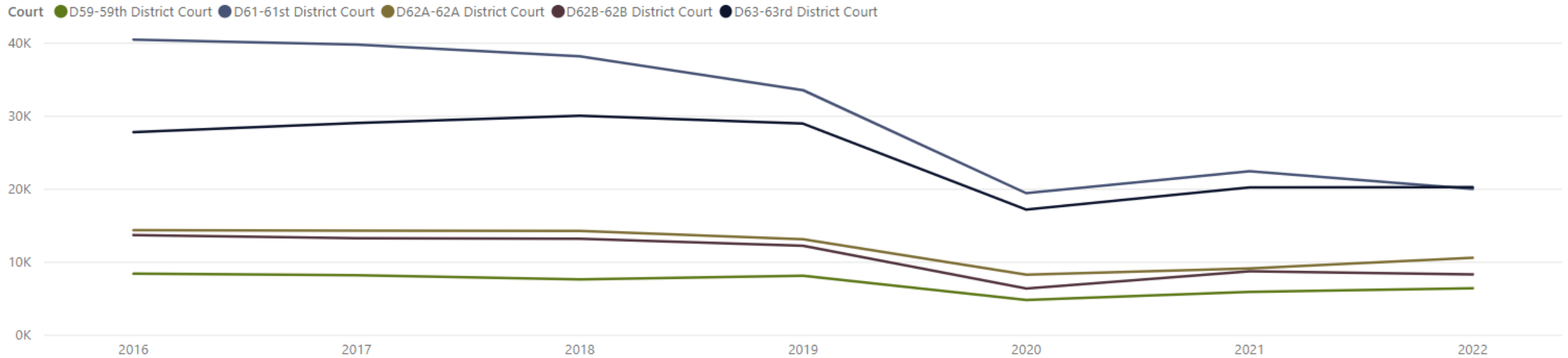
- Understand each other
- Encourage each other
- Help each other
- Laugh with each other



# Comparative Analysis

## New Case Filings

Highest number of new case filings per judge of all Kent County district courts

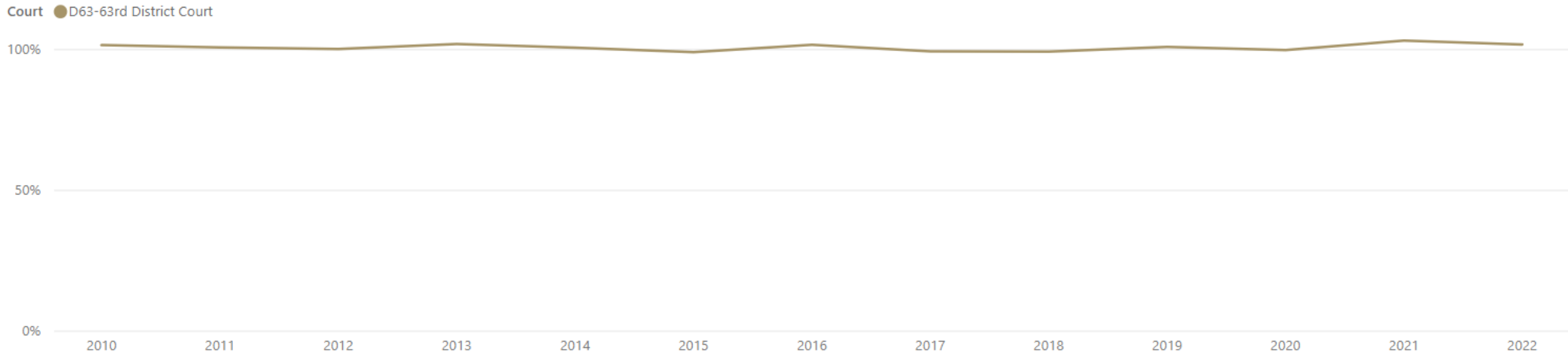


Year	D59-59th District Court	D61-61st District Court	D62A-62A District Court	D62B-62B District Court	D63-63rd District Court
2016	8,348	40,400	14,302	13,645	27,732
2017	8,144	39,739	14,237	13,194	28,970
2018	7,572	38,113	14,221	13,136	29,986
2019	8,077	33,477	13,074	12,168	28,895
2020	4,742	19,366	8,213	6,322	17,124
2021	5,840	22,372	9,068	8,662	20,160
2022	6,366	19,940	10,539	8,253	20,187

Highest number of new case filings TOTAL in 2022

# Effective and Efficient Clearance Rate

Consistently above 100%



Year	D63-63rd District Court
2010	101%
2011	101%
2012	100%
2013	102%
2014	100%
2015	99%
2016	101%
2017	99%
2018	99%
2019	101%
2020	100%
2021	103%
2022	102%

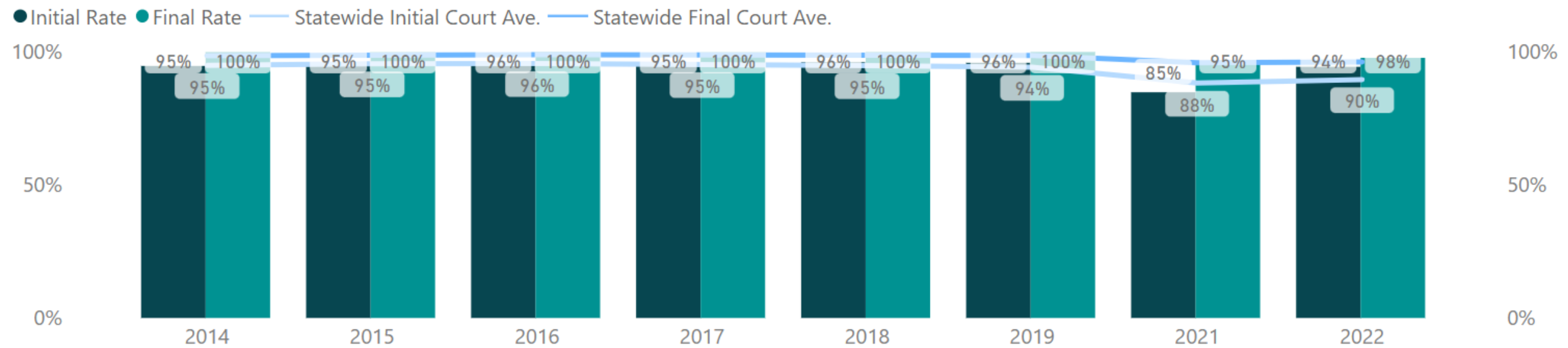
100% or more 10 out of the last 13 years.

# CIVIL CASES

Goal: Provide timely processing and adjudication of all civil cases filed with the Court.

SCAO guidelines: 98% within 455 days

63<sup>rd</sup> Dist. Ct.: 99%



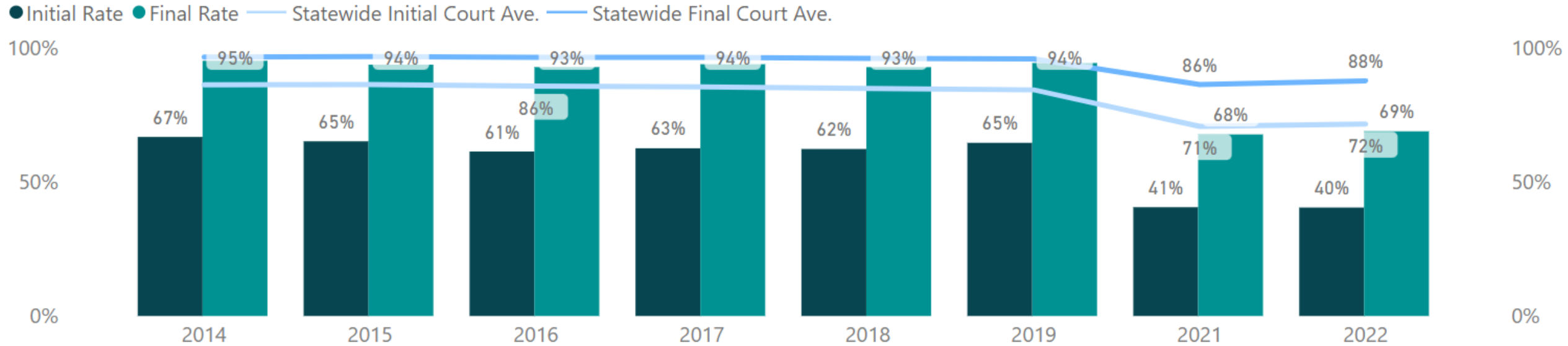
Year	Initial Rate	Final Rate	Statewide Initial Court Ave.	Statewide Final Court Ave.
2014	95%	100%	95%	98%
2015	95%	100%	95%	99%
2016	96%	100%	96%	99%
2017	95%	100%	95%	99%
2018	96%	100%	95%	99%
2019	96%	100%	94%	99%
2021	85%	95%	88%	96%
2022	94%	98%	90%	96%

# CRIMINAL MISDEMEANOR CASES

Goal: Provide timely processing and adjudication of all criminal cases filed with the Court.

SCAO guidelines: 95% within 126 days

63<sup>rd</sup> Dist. Ct.: 90%



Year	Initial Rate	Final Rate	Statewide Initial Court Ave.	Statewide Final Court Ave.
2014	67%	95%	86%	97%
2015	65%	94%	86%	97%
2016	61%	93%	86%	96%
2017	63%	94%	85%	96%
2018	62%	93%	85%	96%
2019	65%	94%	84%	96%
2021	41%	68%	71%	86%
2022	40%	69%	72%	88%

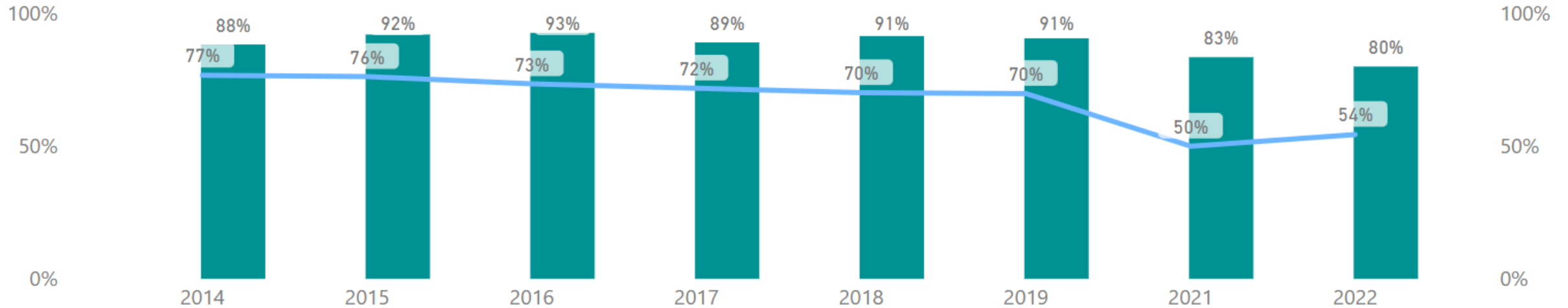
# CRIMINAL FELONY CASES

Goal: Provide timely processing and adjudication of all criminal cases filed with the Court.

SCAO guidelines: 75% within 28 days

63<sup>rd</sup> Dist. Ct.: 88%

● Initial Rate ● Final Rate — Statewide Initial Court Ave. — Statewide Final Court Ave.



Year	Initial Rate	Final Rate	Statewide Initial Court Ave.	Statewide Final Court Ave.
2014	77%	88%	77%	88%
2015	76%	92%	76%	92%
2016	73%	93%	73%	93%
2017	72%	89%	72%	89%
2018	70%	91%	70%	91%
2019	70%	91%	70%	91%
2021	50%	83%	50%	83%
2022	54%	80%	54%	80%

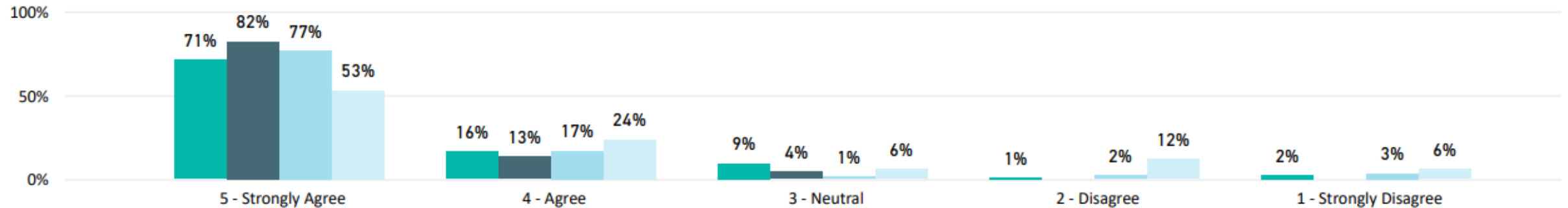


# Public Satisfaction

Maintain courtesy and rights of ALL citizens

4. The judge/magistrate/referee treated everyone with courtesy and respect.

SurveyYear ● 2015 ● 2016 ● 2018 ● 2021

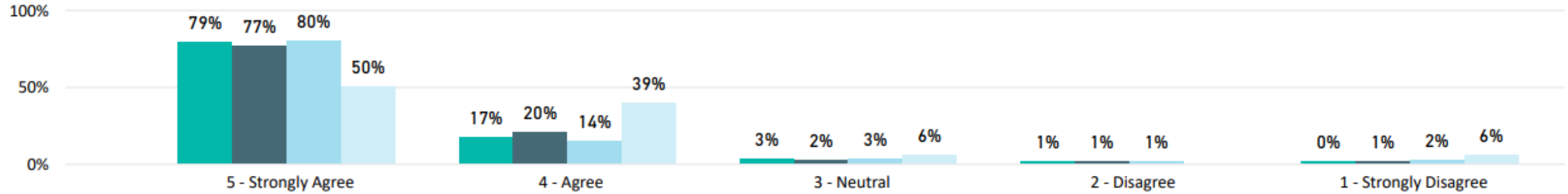


Average of 88% agree or strongly agree

## 2. I was treated with courtesy and respect by court staff.

Average of 93% agree or strongly agree

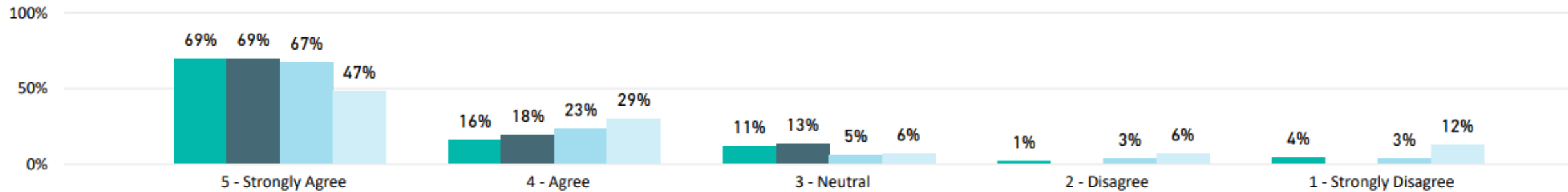
SurveyYear ● 2015 ● 2016 ● 2018 ● 2021



## 3. The way the case was handled was fair.

Average of 84% agree or strongly agree

SurveyYear ● 2015 ● 2016 ● 2018 ● 2021



394th Judicial District Court

Recording of this hearing or live stream  
is prohibited.

Violation may constitute contempt of  
court and result in a fine of up to \$500  
and a jail term of up to 180 days.

394th Judicial District Court

# Virtual Courtroom

<https://youtu.be/lGOofzZOyl8>



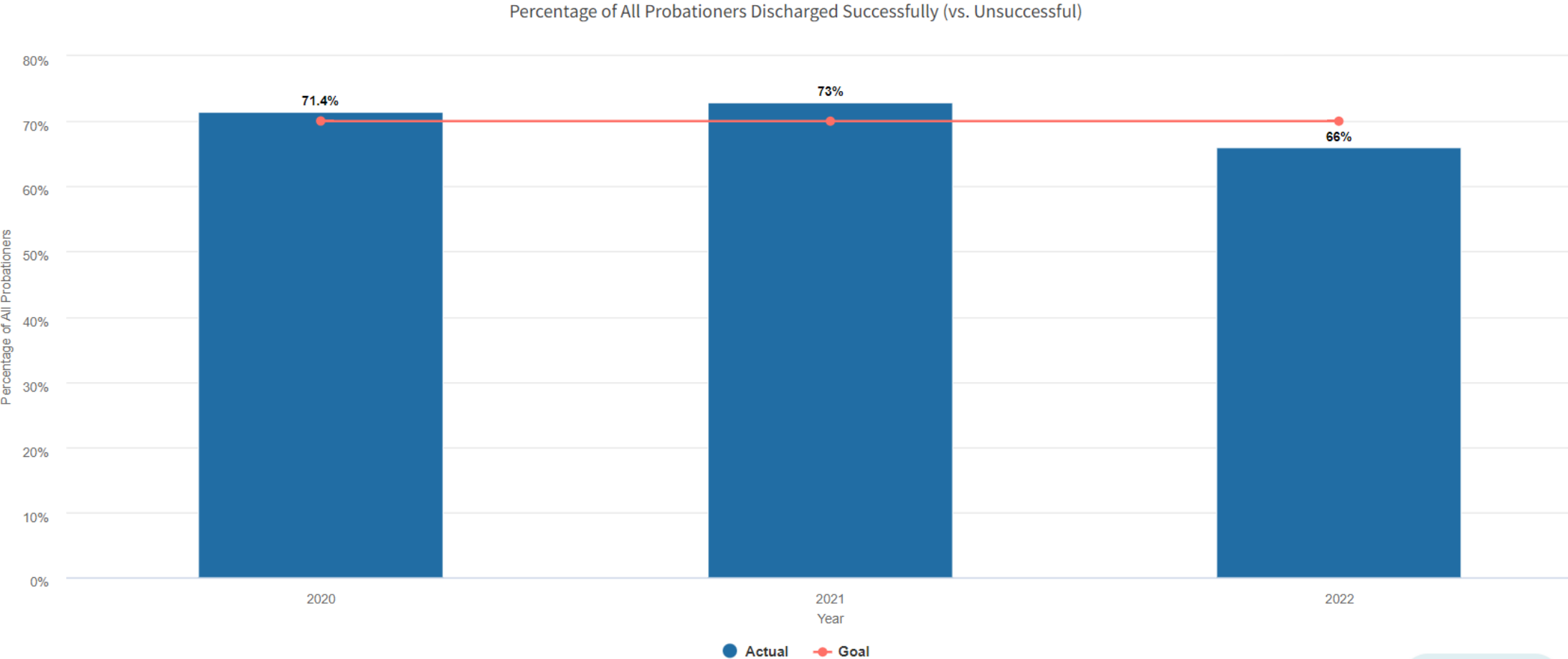
# Probation

Provide supervision to misdemeanor probationers in order to monitor their compliance with court orders, including the effective collection of fines, costs and assessments.

**Probation Division:** Provide a **safe and informed** community through **reduced offender recidivism**, and fair enforcement of court orders.

# Successful probationers

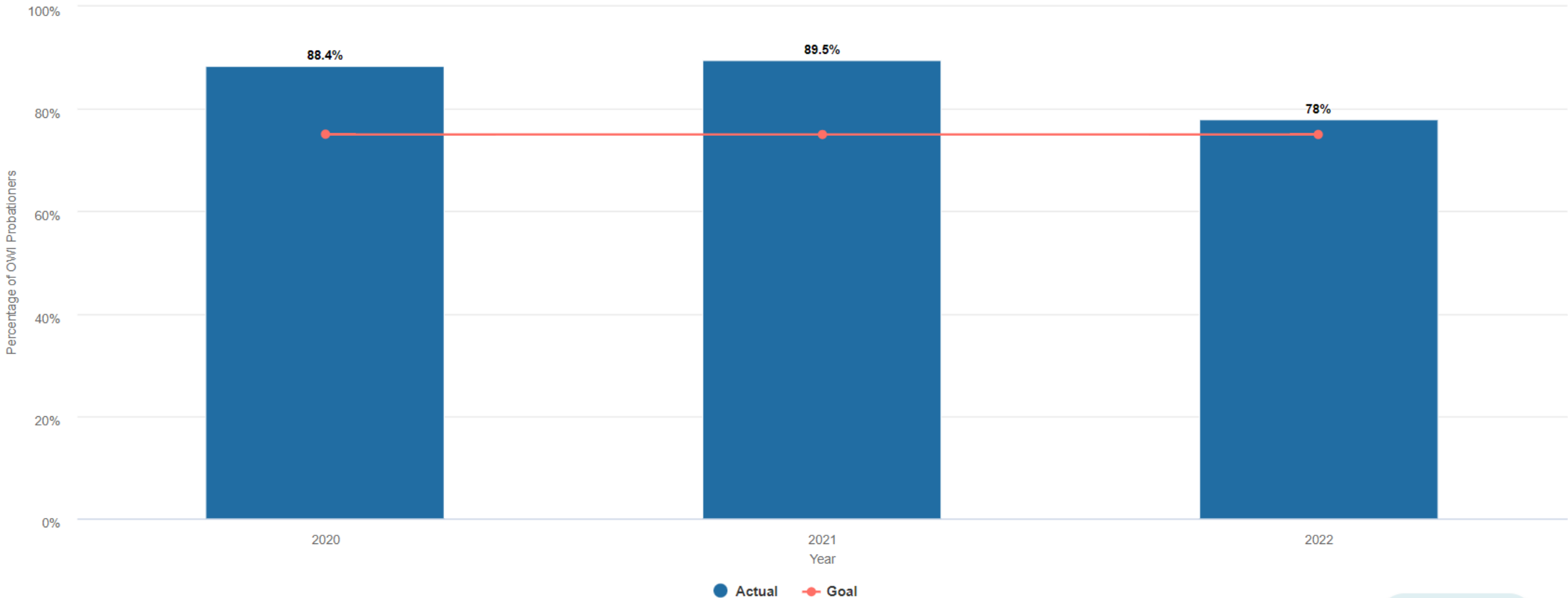
This year, 73% of probationers have successfully completed probation



# Focus on Sobriety

63<sup>rd</sup> District Court probation department has consistently met its goal of successfully discharging 75% of OWI probationers

Percentage of OWI Probationers Discharged Successfully (vs. Unsuccessful)





# 63<sup>rd</sup> District Recovery Court

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- Planning Grant 2021
- Operational Grant(s)
- Currently 26 active participants
- Mission Statement: The mission of Recovery Court is to provide a treatment focused approach to traditional criminal justice case processing. This evidence-based program provides an individualized treatment plan and sanctions to encourage compliance and accountability. This results in a reduction of addictive and criminal behaviors allowing participants to sustain a healthy lifestyle.



**Recovery Court**  
Participant Handbook

# Victim Impact Panel

- 90-minute educational seminar that is divided into two sections,
- Generally required of all drunk driving offenders. The first section utilizes technology and hands-on experiences to teach offenders about the impacts of alcohol on the body and the dangers associated with drunk driving. The second section connects local victims and offenders of drunk driving crashes, allowing them to tell their story and craft an emotional connection with the offenders.
- In 2021, 70 defendants participated
- In 2022, 215 defendants participated.
- In 2022, we brought the Victim Impact Panel to two local High Schools. Between the two schools we spoke to approximately 1000 students.
- As of 8/09/23, 244 defendants have participated in our panels for 2023.



# Automatic Set Aside

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- Effective April 2023 –
- Any number of 92 or less day misdemeanor convictions (disorderly conduct)
- Up to 4, 93 or more day misdemeanor convictions
- Up to 2, felony convictions
  
- Misdemeanor after 7 years
- Felony after 10 years
  
- Court shall notify arresting agencies of all 92 less misdemeanors that are automatically set aside
- Court must identify and manually set aside 93 more misdemeanors that predate CMS or MSP mismatched

## Legislation for 3<sup>rd</sup> Judge

- House Bill 4920: Add additional Judgeship to 63<sup>rd</sup> District Court
- Chief Judge Jeffrey O'Hara testified at hearing before the House Judiciary on September 6
- Significantly high case rates per judge
  - 63<sup>rd</sup> District Judges: 13,271
  - All other Kent County District Court Judges: 7,793
- 63<sup>rd</sup> Jurisdiction growth of 11.2%
- Specialized Docket growth