



## JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE  
*Chief Justice of California*  
*Chair of the Judicial Council*

MARTIN HOSHINO  
*Administrative Director*

March 9, 2017

Hon. Hannah-Beth Jackson, Chair  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2032  
Sacramento, California 95814

Hon. Mark Stone, Chair  
Assembly Committee on Judiciary  
State Capitol, Room 3146  
Sacramento, California 95814

Hon. John M. W. Moorlach, Vice-Chair  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2048  
Sacramento, California 95814

Hon. Jordan Cunningham, Vice-Chair  
Assembly Committee on Judiciary  
State Capitol, Room 4102  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Senator Jackson, Senator Moorlach, Assembly Member Stone, and Assembly Member Cunningham:

The Judicial Council is required by statute to collect and release aggregate demographic information concerning the gender, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and veteran and disability status of California's justices and judges by specific jurisdiction on an annual basis. This information has been collected and released annually since 2007 and was again released on March 1, 2017, in accordance with the requirements of Government Code section 12011.5(n).

The information displayed in the attached charts reflects justices and judges on the bench as of December 31, 2016, who have reported demographic background information. The charts show:

- The overall gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity of responding justices and judges in the Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal, and trial courts;
- The gender of these justices and judges by jurisdiction (Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal by district, and trial courts by county);
- The race/ethnicity of responding justices and judges by jurisdiction;
- The specific race/ethnicity reported by those justices and judges who indicated that they consider themselves to be of more than one race/ethnicity;
- The sexual orientation and gender identity of responding justices and judges by jurisdiction;
- The veteran and disability status of responding judicial officers new to the bench beginning in calendar year 2014; and
- Comparisons of the current overall data on gender, race, and ethnicity with data from prior years' reports.

The most recent demographic data reflect changes resulting from judicial retirements and other departures from the bench, new judicial appointments, and an increase in the number of trial court judges who have provided race/ethnicity information.

The demographic data indicate a trend toward a greater proportion of women serving as trial court judges over time. At the end of calendar year 2016, women represented 33.5 percent of this component of the judiciary, compared to 26.8 percent at the end of 2006, continuing an upward trend across this time period.

The data also show an increase in the total number of judges since 2006 in the following race and ethnicity categories: American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, Pacific Islander, and Some Other Race. In addition to increases in the foregoing categories, a slight decrease in the number of judicial officers was observed since 2006 in the response categories of More Than One Race and Information Not Provided.

Of the 360 trial court judges responding to the question about their veteran status, 31 respondents (9 percent) indicated that they have served in the military. Further, of the 363 judges responding to the question concerning their disability status, 8 judges (2 percent) indicated that they have a disability.

Finally, the additional data in this year's report regarding sexual orientation and gender identity show the following breakdown in six categories in the trial courts (please note that the total can exceed 100 percent because respondents may select more than one category):

March 9, 2016

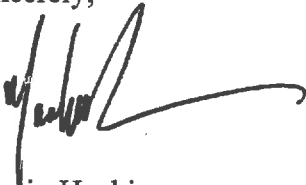
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- Heterosexual, 65.2 percent
- Lesbian, 1.3 percent
- Gay, 1.5 percent
- Bisexual, 0.1 percent
- Transgender, 0.1 percent
- Information Not Provided, 31.8 percent

The Judicial Council will release the data by posting the information on the California Courts website at [www.courts.ca.gov/13418.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/13418.htm).

If you have questions about the report, please do not hesitate to contact either Robert Lowney, Director, Court Operations Services, at 415-865-7833, or David Smith, Senior Analyst, at 415-865-7696.

Sincerely,



Martin Hoshino  
Administrative Director  
Judicial Council

MH/DS

Enclosures

cc:

Hon. Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of California and Chair of the Judicial Council  
Ms. Margie Estrada, Chief Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee  
Ms. Alison Merrilees, Chief Counsel, Assembly Judiciary Committee  
Ms. Carrie Cornwell, Chief of Staff, Office of Speaker Anthony Rendon  
Mr. Alf Brandt, Senior Counsel, Office of Speaker Anthony Rendon  
Mr. Shaun Naidu, Policy Consultant, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de León  
Mr. Mike Petersen, Consultant, Senate Republican Policy Office  
Mr. Paul Dress, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy and Budget