Since its founding in 1971, our mission at the National Center for State Courts has been to improve the administration of justice through leadership and service to state courts and courts around the world.

What is the National Center for State Courts?
We are a nonpartisan, research-based organization that helps courts operate efficiently – and stay in front of trends.

Is NCSC part of a government agency?
No. We are a nonprofit organization.

How is NCSC governed?
We are directed by a 27-member board made up of chief justices, court administrators, judges, lawyers and other court advocates.

How does the National Center help the courts?
We conduct research and consulting for courts, and advise them on challenges they face. We offer educational courses to court professionals, and we serve as a voice for the needs and interests of the courts.

In what areas does the National Center work with courts?
Some areas include: caseload & workflow management, civil justice reform, domestic violence, elder abuse, judicial bias & ethics, jury studies, juvenile justice, language access, cybersecurity, and technology.

150+ NCSC employees
with experts in a variety of fields, including: economics, anthropology, political science, psychology, sociology, public policy & management, court administration and the law.

What are some of NCSC's current projects?

Pandemic Response
The Conference of Chief Justices and Conference of State Court Administrators (CCJ/COSCA) established a Rapid Response Team (RRT) to address pandemic-related issues arising in state courts. Staffed by NCSC, the team has created a roadmap to help courts move forward. The RRT collects and evaluates policies and procedures that impact access to justice, conducts virtual education sessions on innovative practices, and issues tools and guidance to courts.

Eviction Diversion
With an anticipated eviction crisis looming, NCSC developed an eviction diversion diagnostic tool as part of the RRT Implementation Lab. The guided, online interview helps courts determine their readiness for eviction diversion and provides a recommended course of action. Working with partners including the U.S. Department of Justice, NCSC also hosts an evictions online resource center for courts, attorneys and the public.

Racial Justice
Understanding the need for improving racial justice, equity and inclusion in the justice system, NCSC has launched the Blueprint for Racial Justice. The effort will examine key areas including equity and awareness; systemic change; communication and implementation; and increasing diversity of the bench, bar and workforce.

Behavioral Health
Issues related to mental illness are found throughout the courts. NCSC is working with state court administrators, chief justices and agencies including the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to ensure fair and efficient justice for court-involved individuals with serious mental illness.

Some of our other projects include work in the following areas:

• Analysts in our Research Division compile a vast public database called the Court Statistics Project – with information from all 50 states and 3 territories.

• Our International Division works at any given time with courts in about 30 countries – from Nicaragua to Nigeria and from Bosnia to the Bahamas.

• Our Institute for Court Management team teaches courses to certify court managers and other court professionals – with more than 2,200 attendees enrolled in ICM courses in 2021.

• Our Association Services Division coordinates annual and bi-annual conferences for court-related associations.

• Our Court Services Division provides specialized assistance to courts in areas such as, technology, security, workloads, and court operations.