

Evaluation of the judicial systems (2018 - 2020)

Netherlands

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Reference data 2018 (01/01/2018 - 31/12/2018)

Start/end date of the data collection campaign : 01/03/2019 - 01/10/2019

Objective:

The CEPEJ decided, at its 31th plenary meeting, to launch the eigth evaluation cycle 2018 – 2020, focused on 2018 data. The CEPEJ wishes to use the methodology developed in the previous cycles to get, with the support of its national correspondents' network, a general evaluation of the judicial systems in the 47 member states of the Council of Europe as well as three observer states (Israel, Morocco and Kazakhstan). This will enable policy makers and judicial practitioners to take account of such unique information when carrying out their activities.

The present questionnaire was adapted by the Working group on evaluation of judicial systems (CEPEJ-GT-EVAL) in view of the previous evaluation cycles and considering the comments submitted by CEPEJ members, observers, experts and national correspondents. The aim of this exercise is to increase awareness of judicial systems in the participating states, to compare the functioning of judicial systems in their various aspects, as well as to have a better knowledge of the trends of the judicial organisation in order to help improve the efficiency of justice. The evaluation questionnaire and the analysis of the results becomes a genuine tool in favour of public policies on justice, for the sake of the European citizens.

Instruction :

The ways to use the application and to answer the questions are guided by two main documents:

- -User manual
- -Explanatory note

While the explanatory note gives definitions and explanations on the CEPEJ evaluation questionnaire and the methodology needed for replying, the User manual is a tool to help you navigate through this application. You can download the Explanatory note as a whole on the CEPEJ website. The specific explanations are also accessible for each question within this application under the tab "Explanatory note". This will serve as immediate consultation tool when answering questions. The user manual is accessible in the "Documentation" tab of the application.

In case you have any questions related to these documents or on the use of the application, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat.

1.General and financial information

1.1.Demographic and economic data

1.1.1.Inhabitants and economic general information

001. Number of inhabitants (if possible on 1 January of the reference year +1)

[17 282 163]

Comments Number of inhabitants on 1 January, 2019

002. Total of annual public expenditure at state level and where appropriate, public expenditure at regional or federal entity level (in \in)

	Amount
State or federal level	325 504 000 000 []NA []NAP
Regional / federal entity level (total for all regions / federal entities)	[]NA [X]NAP

Comments

003. Per capita GDP (in €) in current prices for the reference year

[45 052]

Comments gdp 2018: 774.039.000.000 devided by the number of inhabitants on 1 January, 2018

004. Average gross annual salary (in \in) for the reference year

[58 800]

[]NA

Comments This is average salary of all employees; the number includes money that employers pay for pension plans, social security (money that is paid directly to employees). The statistic does not include the income of people who are not employees (people without work, employers).

005. Exchange rate of national currency (non-Euro zone) in \in on 1 January of the reference year +1

[] Allow decimals : 5

Comments

A1. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 1 to 5

Sources: CBS (Central Bureau of Statistics

1.1.2. Budgetary data concerning judicial system

006. Annual (approved and implemented) public budget allocated to the functioning of all courts, in \notin (without the budget of the public prosecution services and without the budget of legal aid). If you cannot separate the budget allocated to the courts from the budgets of public prosecution services and/or legal aid, please go to question 7. If you are able to answer this question 6, please

 \bigcirc

	Approved budget (in €)	Implemented budget (in €)
TOTAL - Annual public budget allocated to the functioning	1 020 108 000	1 056 692 000
of all courts $(1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7)$	[] NA [] NAP	[]NA []NAP
1. Annual public budget allocated to (gross) salaries	775 999 000	839 276 000
	[] NA [] NAP	[]NA []NAP
2. Annual public budget allocated to computerisation	95 378 000 []NA []NAP	100 351 000 []NA []NAP
3. Annual public budget allocated to justice expenses (expertise, interpretation, etc.)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
4. Annual public budget allocated to court buildings (maintenance, operating costs)	112 143 000 []NA []NAP	92 992 000 []NA []NA
5. Annual public budget allocated to investments in new (court) buildings	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [] NA [X] NAP
6. Annual public budget allocated to training	[X]NA []NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
7. Other (please specify)	34 084 000 []NA []NAP	21 291 000 []NA []NAP

Please indicate any useful comment to explain the figures provided. If the annual public budget allocated to the functioning of all courts actually implemented is different from the approved annual public budget allocated to the functioning of all courts, please indicate the main reasons for the differences: Budgets of 2018 include the High Court (not always included in previous years) The total approuved budget has declined in recent years as the workload is declining, and because of cost cuts after an IT innovation program terminated in 2015. Regarding the decrease of justice expenses and of implemented budget for court buildings, there is no specific explanation.

007. If you cannot answer question 6 because you cannot isolate the public budget allocated to courts from the budget allocated to public prosecution services and/or legal aid, please fill only the appropriate line in the table according to your system:

	Approved budget (in €)	Implemented budget (in €)
Total annual public budget allocated to all courts and the		
public prosecution services together	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
Total annual public budget allocated to all courts and legal		
aid together	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
Total annual public budget allocated to all courts, public		
prosecution services and legal aid together	[] NA [X] NAP	[]NA [X]NAP

Comments - Please indicate any useful comment to explain the figures provided. If the annual public budget actually implemented is different from the approved annual public budget, please indicate the main reasons for the differences:

008. Are litigants in general required to pay a court fee to start a proceeding at a court of general jurisdiction:

	Litigants required to pay a court fee to start a proceeding at a court of general jurisdiction ?
for criminal cases	() Yes
	(X)No
for other than criminal cases	(X)Yes
	() No

If there are exceptions to the rule to pay these court fees, could you please provide comments on those exceptions?

008-1. Please briefly present the methodology of calculation of these court fees:

- • In civil cases there are fixed court fee rates based on the underlying value of the claim. There is a flat rate in cases where the value of the claim is undetermined.

• In civil cases there a different rates for individuals and legal entities • In administrative cases the rate depends on the type of case and whether it is an individual or legal entity.

- There is a fixed flat rate for people with low income.
- Since 1 January 2011 the court fee must be paid in advance.

008-2. The amount of court fees requested to commence an action for 3000€ debt recovery:

- [476]
- []NA
- [] NAP

Comments "476 euro for companies/institutions/organisations

226 euro for individuals 79 euro for individuals with very low income"

009. Annual income of court fees received by the State (in \in):

- [160 462 000]
- []NA
- []NAP

Comments It seems that the amounts reported in 2016 and 2017 included some other revenues as well. The amount reported for 2018 is court fees only.

012. Annual approved public budget allocated to legal aid, in \in .

	TOTAL	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
TOTAL - Annual approved public budget allocated to legal aid $(12.1 + 12.2)$	460 600 000 []NA []NAP	165 800 000 []NA []NAP	294 800 000 []NA []NAP
12.1 for cases brought to court (court fees and/or legal representation)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

12.2 for cases not brought to court (legal			
advice, ADR and other legal services)	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

Comments

012-1. Annual implemented public budget allocated to legal aid, in \in .

	TOTAL	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
TOTAL - Annual implemented public budget	413 900 000	149 600 000	264 300 000
allocated to legal aid $(12-1.1 + 12-1.2)$	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA
anocated to legal and $(12-1.1 + 12-1.2)$	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
12-1.1 for cases brought to court (court fees			
• · ·	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
and/or legal representation)	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
12-1.2 for cases not brought to court (legal			
advice, ADR and other legal services)	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
auvice, ADK and other legal services)	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

If the public budget actually implemented regarding legal aid is different from the annual approved public budget allocated to legal aid, please indicate the main reasons for the differences:

013. Annual (approved and implemented) public budget allocated to the public prosecution services, in \in .

	Approved budget (in €)	Implemented budget (in €)
Total annual public budget allocated to the public prosecution services, in € (including 13.1)	566 176 000 [] NA [] NAP	610 915 000 [] NA [] NAP
13.1. Annual public budget allocated to training of public prosecution services	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Please indicate any useful comment to explain the figures provided. Moreover, if the annual public budget allocated to the public prosecution services actually implemented is different from the approved annual public budget, please indicate the main reasons for the differences:

014. Authorities formally responsible for the budgets allocated to the courts (multiple options possible):

	Preparation of the total court budget	Adoption/approval of the total court budget	Management and allocation of the budget among the courts	Evaluation of the use of the budget at a national level
Ministry of Justice	(X) Yes	() Yes	() Yes	(X) Yes
	() No	(X) No	(X) No	() No
Other ministry	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No
Parliament	() Yes	(X) Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	(X) No]] NAP	() No [] NAP	(X) No]] NAP	(X) No]] NAP

Supreme Court	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
High Judicial Council	(X) Yes	() Yes	(X) Yes	(X) Yes
	() No	(X) No	() No	() No
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Courts	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Inspection body	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Other	(X) Yes	() Yes	(X) Yes	(X) Yes
	() No	(X) No	() No	() No
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

If any other Ministry and/or inspection body and/or other, please specify:

014-1. (Former question 61) Who is entrusted with responsibilities related to the budget within the court?

	Preparation of the budget	Arbitration and allocation of the budget	Day to day management of the budget	Evaluation and control of the use of the budget
Management Board	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Court President	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No
Court administrative director	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
Head of the court clerk office	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No
	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No
Other	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No
	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No

Comments - If "other", please specify:

A2. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 6 to 14:

Sources: Ministry budget 2018; Judicial Council annual report 2018

1.1.3.Budgetary data concerning the whole justice system

015-1. Annual (approved and implemented) public budget allocated to the whole justice system, in € (this global budget includes the judicial system budget - see 15-2 and other elements of the justice system - see 15-3)

	Approved budget (in €)	Implemented budget (in €)
Total annual public budget allocated to the whole justice	12 080 537 000	12 814 046 000
system in €	[] NA [] NAP	[]NA []NAP

Please indicate any useful comment to explain the figures provided above and specify if a large portion of the budget allocated to the whole justice system comes from an international organisation. Moreover, if the annual public budget allocated to the whole justice system actually implemented is different from the approved annual public budget, please indicate the main reasons for the differences:

015-2. Elements of the judicial system budget (Q6, Q7, Q12 and Q13)

	Included	Not included	Does not exist (NAP)
Courts (see question 6 or 7)	(X)	()	()
Legal aid (see question 12 or 7)	(X)	()	()
Public prosecution services (see question 13 or 7)	(X)	()	()

A value must be entered for each question !

015-3. Other budgetary elements

	Included	Not included	Does not exist (NAP)
Prison system	(X)	()	()
Probation services	(X)	()	()
High Judicial Council	(X)	()	()
Constitutional court	()	(X)	(X)
Judicial management body	(X)	()	()
State advocacy	(X)	()	()
Enforcement services	(X)	()	()
Notariat	()	(X)	()
Forensic services	(X)	()	()
Judicial protection of juveniles	(X)	()	()
Functioning of the Ministry of Justice	(X)	()	()
Refugees and asylum seekers services	(X)	()	()
Immigration Service	(X)	()	()

Some police services (e.g. : transfer, investigation, prisoners' security)	(X)	()	()
Other	(X)	()	()

If "other", please specify: Includes police and secret service

A3. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 15-1, 15-2 and 15-3:

Sources: State budget (Rijksbegroting) 2018 Annual Financial Report 2018

2. Access to justice and all courts

2.1.Legal Aid

2.1.1.Scope of legal aid

016. Does legal aid apply to:

	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
Representation in court	(X) Yes	(X) Yes
	() No	() No
	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP
Legal advice, ADR and other legal services	(X) Yes	(X) Yes
	() No	() No
	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP

016-1. Please briefly describe the organisation of the legal aid system in your country both before going to court and during court proceedings.

The Dutch legal aid system is basically a threefold model in that it encompasses three 'lines' that provide legal aid. The legal aid system, therefore, is a mixed model, consisting of a public preliminary provision, public first-line and private second-line help.
1.Online self-help, information and support is offered on the Rechtwijzer website (Rechtwijzer translates into Roadmap to Justice; see www.rechtwijzer.nl). Rechtwijzer is a preliminary provision and offers interactive 'decision trees' helping people to assess their situation. In addition Rechtwijzer provides easy-to-understand information and guidance on possible solutions for the most common legal problems. Rechtwijzer combines publicly run guided pathways for common legal problems with online products and services from private service providers. The Legal Services Counters also have a website that can be seen as a preliminary provision.
2.The Legal Services Counters act as what is commonly known as the 'front office' (primary help). Legal matters are being clarified to clients and information and advice given. Clients may be referred to a private lawyer or mediator, who act as the secondary line of legal aid. Clients may also apply for help from a subsidised lawyer or mediator directly. If necessary, clients can also be referred to other professionals or support agencies.

3.Private lawyers and mediators provide legal aid in more complicated or time-consuming matters (secondary help) in the form of certificates. A lawyer (or mediator) submits an application to the LAB on behalf of his client. If legal aid is granted, a certificate is

issued which allows the lawyer in question to deal with the case. Dealing of the case can be in the form of a court procedure or giving advice without going to court. Lawyers and mediators are paid by the LAB to provide their services to clients of limited means. Generally they are paid a fixed fee according to the type of case, although exceptions can be made for more time consuming cases. Legal aid in the Netherlands is usually provided by private lawyers/ law firms that provide legal advice and represent clients in cases that deal with the major fields of legal aid: criminal, family, labour/ employment, housing, social security, consumer, administrative, asylum and immigration. To be entitled to accept legal aid cases, private lawyers need to be registered with the LAB and to comply with a set of quality standards. These standards are set by the Bar. For some fields of law – criminal, mental health, asylum and immigration law, youth, family law, victims of crime – additional terms apply. The lawyer must both have adequate expertise and sufficient experience in that particular field.

017. Does legal aid include the coverage of or the exemption from court fees?

() Yes

(X) No

[] NAP

If yes, please specify:

018. Can legal aid be granted for the fees that are related to the enforcement of judicial decisions (e.g. fees of an enforcement agent)?

(X)Yes

() No

[] NAP

If yes, please specify: Article 12, criminal law on prosecution (wetboek van strafvordering)

019. Can legal aid be granted for other costs (different from those mentioned in questions 16 to 18, e.g. fees of technical advisors or experts, costs of other legal professionals (notaries), travel costs etc.)?

	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
Legal aid granted for other costs	(X)Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No
	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP

Comments - If yes, please specify: Legal aid can also be granted for the following costs: travel costs, interpreter and translation costs, administrative costs, special regulation for medical expert costs in injury cases.

2.1.2.Information on legal aid

020. Please indicate the number of cases for which legal aid has been granted:

Total	Cases brought to court	Cases not brought to
		court

TOTAL	348 103	292 279	55 824	
	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	
In criminal cases	105 947	105 947	0	
	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	
In other than criminal cases	264 735	186 332	55 824	
	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	

Comments - Please specify when appropriate:

021. In criminal cases, can individuals who do not have sufficient financial means be assisted by a free of charge (or financed by a public budget) lawyer?

	Assisted by a free of charge lawyer
Accused individuals	(X) Yes () No
Victims	(X) Yes () No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

022. In criminal cases are these individuals free to choose their lawyer within the framework of the legal aid system?

	free selection of lawyer
Accused individuals	(X) Yes () No
Victims	(X) Yes () No
	[] NAP

Comments Only if preferred lawyer is registered with the Legal Aid Board

023-0. Does your country have an income and assets evaluation for granting full or partial legal aid?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - Please indicate if any other criteria are taken into account for the granting of legal aid and any comment that could explain the data provided above: The eligibility for legal aid is based on both the client's annual income and his assets. The LAB verifies the client's personal data with those in the municipal population register and checks the applicant's income and assets with the tax authorities. It is able to do so with the aid of a 'burgerservicenummer' (citizen service number) (BSN); this is a unique identification number, which every Dutch citizen receives when registering in the municipal population register. Thanks to online connections with the tax authorities, the Legal Aid Board is able to rapidly obtain information concerning the applicant's income and assets. Additionally, also non-Dutch litigants receive legal aid when they have a problem that concerns the Dutch legal system.

Each criminal suspect who has been lawfully deprived of his liberty against his will, is granted legal aid without a income and asset evaluation. .

For married persons or a single person with children the applicant's income should not be higher than € 38.000.

023. If yes, please specify in the table:

	Annual income value (for one person), (in €)	Assets value (for one person), (in €)
Full legal aid to the applicant for criminal cases	26 900	24 437
	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP
Full legal aid to the applicant for other than criminal cases	26 900	24 437
	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP
Partial legal aid to the applicant for criminal cases	26 900	24 437
	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP
Partial legal aid to the applicant for other than criminal	26 900	24 437
cases	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP

024. Is it possible to refuse legal aid for lack of merit of the case (for example for frivolous action or no chance of success)?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, please explain the exact criteria for denying legal aid:

025. Is the decision to grant or refuse legal aid taken by:

- () the court
- (X) an authority external to the court
- () a mixed authority (court and external bodies)

Comments The Legal Aid Board grants or refuses the dertificate

026. Is there a private system of legal expense insurance enabling individuals (this does not concern companies or other legal persons) to finance court proceedings?

- (X)Yes
- () No

Comments - If appropriate, please inform about the current development of such insurances in your country; is it a growing phenomenon? A part of the population has legal expense insurance in the Netherlands. However, not every judicial problem that is covered by the Legal Aid system is covered by this insurance (for example, criminal cases and divorce cases). Also, people who have insurance can still make use of the Legal Aid system (there is no insurance-check frist).

027. Can judicial decisions direct how legal costs, paid by the parties during the procedure, will be shared:

	Judicial decisions direct how legal costs will be shared
in criminal cases	() Yes (X) No

in other than criminal cases	(X)Yes
	() No

Comments

B1. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 20 and 23 :

Sources: Raad voor Rechtsbijstand

2.2.Court users and victims

2.2.1.Rights of the users and victims

028. Are there official internet sites/portals (e.g. Ministry of Justice, etc.) where general public may have free of charge access to the following:

	Yes	Internet adresse(es)
legal texts (e.g. codes, laws, regulations, etc.)	()	(X) https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/we tten-en-regelingen https://www.wetten.nl
case-law of the higher court/s	()	(X)
other documents (e.g. downloadable forms, online registration)	()	(X)

Please specify what documents and information are included in "other documents":

029. Is there an obligation to provide information to the parties concerning the foreseeable timeframes of proceedings?

- () Yes, always
- (X) No
- () Yes, only in some specific situations

Comments - If yes, only in some specific situations, please specify:

030. Is there a public and free-of-charge specific information system to inform and to help victims of offences?

- (X)Yes
- () No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

031. Are there special favourable arrangements to be applied, during judicial proceedings, to the following categories of vulnerable persons:

	Information mechanism	Special arrangements in hearings	Other specific arrangements
Victims of sexual violence/rape	(X)Yes	(X) Yes	(X) Yes
	()No	() No	() No
Victims of terrorism	(X) Yes	(X) Yes	(X) Yes
	() No	() No	() No
Minors (witnesses or victims)	(X)Yes	(X) Yes	(X) Yes
	()No	() No	() No
Victims of domestic violence	(X)Yes	(X)Yes	(X) Yes
	()No	()No	() No
Ethnic minorities	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No
Disabled persons	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	(X) No	(X) No	(X) No
Juvenile offenders	(X)Yes	(X) Yes	(X) Yes
	()No	() No	() No
Other (e.g. victims of human trafficking, forced marriage, sexual mutilation)	(X)Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	()No	(X) No	(X) No

Comments - If "other vulnerable person" and/or "other special arrangements", please specify: As it is not possible to put NA for this table, the answer regarding ethnic minorities and disabled people are "no", but should be read as "not available"

031-1. Is it possible for minors to be a party to a judicial proceeding:

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, please specify which procedures can be concerned (civil, criminal, administrative / normal or accelerated procedure) and at which conditions (can minor benefit from legal aid, be represented by a lawyer, etc.):

032. Does your country allocate compensation for victims of offences?

(X) Yes, please specify for which kind of offences:

() No

Comments

032-1. Is a court decision necessary in the framework of the compensation procedure?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

033. If yes, does this compensation come from:

[X] a public fund

[X] damages and interests to be paid by the person responsible

[] a private fund

Comments

034. Are there studies that evaluate the recovery rate of the damages awarded by courts to victims?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, please illustrate with available data concerning the recovery rate, the title of the studies, the frequency of the studies and the coordinating body:

035. Do public prosecutors have a specific role with respect to victims (protection and assistance)?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

036. Do victims of offences have the right to dispute a public prosecutor's decision to discontinue a case? Please verify the consistency of your answer with that of the question 105 regarding the possibility for a public prosecutor "to discontinue a case without needing a decision by a judge". (The answer NAP means that the public prosecutor cannot decide to discontinue a case on his/her own. A decision by a judge is needed.)

(X)Yes

() No

[] NAP

Comments - If necessary, please specify:

037. Is there a system for compensating users in the following circumstances:

	Number of requests for compensation	Number of condemnations	Total amount (in €)
Total			
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Excessive length of proceedings			
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Non-execution of court decisions			
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Wrongful arrest			
•	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Wrongful conviction			
•	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Other			
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

Comments - Where appropriate, please give details on the compensation procedure and the calculation method for the amount of the compensation (e.g. the amount per day for unjustified detentions or convictions): Numbers cannot be provided for this question, as the compensation may involve people who have been in custody but where not accused of found guilty, it may involve damages due to an arrest, or possessed goods that have been damaged / sold / destroyed / gone missing. I don't have numbers specific to the categories you

2.2.2 Confidence and satisfaction of citizens with their justice system

038. Does your country implement surveys aimed at legal professionals and court users to measure their trust in justice and their satisfaction with the services delivered by the judicial system? If yes, how frequently and up to what level?

	National level	Court level
1. Surveys aimed at judges	[] Annual [X] Other regular [] Ad hoc	[] Annual [X] Other regular [] Ad hoc
2. Surveys aimed at court staff	[] Annual [X] Other regular [] Ad hoc	[] Annual [X] Other regular [] Ad hoc
3. Surveys aimed at public prosecutors	[X] Annual [] Other regular [] Ad hoc	[X] Annual [] Other regular [] Ad hoc
4. Surveys aimed at lawyers	[X] Annual [X] Other regular [] Ad hoc	[] Annual [X] Other regular [] Ad hoc
5. Surveys aimed at the parties	[] Annual [X] Other regular [] Ad hoc	[] Annual [X] Other regular [] Ad hoc
6. Surveys aimed at other court users (e.g. jurors, witnesses, experts, interpreters, representatives of governmental agencies, NGOs)	[] Annual [X] Other regular [] Ad hoc	[] Annual [X] Other regular [] Ad hoc
7. Surveys aimed at victims	[X] Annual [] Other regular [] Ad hoc	[X] Annual [] Other regular [] Ad hoc
8. Other not mentioned	[] Annual [X] Other regular [] Ad hoc	[] Annual [] Other regular [X] Ad hoc

Comments - Please, indicate the references and links to the satisfaction surveys you mentioned above: A summary of national satisfaction surveys can be found on this page:

https://www.wodc.nl/cijfers-en-prognoses/rechtspleging-civiel-en-bestuur/

Click on https://www.wodc.nl/binaries/2019-rechtspleging-civiel-bestuur-2018-webupdate-tabellen-h08-def_tcm28-93510.xlsx, see table 8.12, 8.13 (general satisfaction), 8.14 (satisfaction about timeliness)

These satisfaction surveys are conducted every three years by the Council for the Judiciary

040. Is there a national or local procedure for filing complaints about the functioning of the judicial system? (for example, handling of the case by a judge or the duration of a proceeding)

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

041. If yes, please specify certain aspects of this procedure:

	Authority responsible for dealing with the complaint	Existence of a time limit to deal with the complaint for this authority
Court concerned	(X)Yes	() Yes
	() No	(X) No
Higher court	(X)Yes	() Yes
	() No	(X) No
Ministry of Justice	() Yes	() Yes
	(X) No	(X) No
High Judicial Council	() Yes	() Yes
	(X) No	(X) No
Other external bodies (e.g. Ombudsman)	(X)Yes	() Yes
	() No	(X) No

Comments Complaints can be filed at the Court concerned, and at the High Council. Complaints against non-judge staff can also be handled by the National Ombudsman. Procedures aimed to replace a judge on a case - which can be started during a hearing / the handling of a case - are not counted in this section.

See: https://www.wodc.nl/binaries/2019-rechtspleging-civiel-bestuur-2018-webupdate-tabellen-h08-def_tcm28-93510.xlsx, see table 8.19

041-1. If yes, please specify certain aspects of this procedure:

	Number of complaints	Compensation amount granted
Court concerned	2 398	
	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[X] NAP
Higher court	3	
	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[X] NAP
Ministry of Justice		
	[] NA	[] NA
	[X] NAP	[X] NAP
High Judicial Council		
	[] NA	[] NA
	[X] NAP	[X] NAP
Other external bodies (e.g. Ombudsman)		
	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP

Comments - If possible, please give information concerning the efficiency of this complaint procedure and any useful comment: Half of the complaints are not handled on the merits, because they do not fit the rules / court is inadmissible. in the annual report over 2018 20% of the complaints were found 'just'. About 5% of the complaints had not been fully handled at the time of report.

3. Organisation of the court system

3.1.Courts

3.1.1.Number of courts

042. Number of courts considered as legal entities (administrative structures) and geographic

 \bigcirc

locations.

	Number of courts
42.1 First instance courts of general jurisdiction (legal entities)	11
	[] NA [] NAP
42.2 First instance specialised courts (legal entities)	1 []NA []NAP
42.3 All the courts (geographic locations) (this includes 1st instance courts of general jurisdiction, first instance specialised courts, all second instance courts and courts of appeal and all Supreme Courts)	40 []NA []NA

Comments

043. Number (legal entities) of first instance specialised courts (or specific judicial order)

	Number of courts
Total (must be the same as the data given under question 42.2)	1 []NA []NAP
Commercial courts (excluded insolvency courts)	0 []NA []NAP
Insolvency courts	0 []NA []NA
Labour courts	0 []NA []NA
Family courts	0 []NA []NA
Rent and tenancies courts	0 []NA []NA
Enforcement of criminal sanctions courts	0 []NA []NA
Fight against terrorism, organised crime and corruption	0 []NA []NA
Internet related disputes	0 []NA []NAP
Administrative courts	1 []NA []NA
Insurance and / or social welfare courts	0 []NA []NA []NAP

Military courts	0 []NA []NAP
Other specialised 1st instance courts	0 []NA []NAP

Comments - If "other specialised 1st instance courts", please specify:

044. Is there a foreseen change in the structure of courts [for example a reduction of the number of courts (geographic locations) or a change in the powers of courts]?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments - Please specify:

045. Number of first instance courts (geographic locations) competent for a case concerning:

	Number of courts
a debt collection for small claims	31
	[] NA
	[] NAP
an employment dismissal	31
	[] NA
	[] NAP
a robbery	11
,	[] NA
	[] NAP
an insolvency case	11
	[] NA
	[] NAP

Comments Small Claims and Employment Dismissal cases are handled by a 'kantonrechter'. Kantonrechters sit at 31 locations. (even more locations before 2013, when many court locations were closed)

045-1. Is your definition for small claims the same as the one in the Explanatory note?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If not, please give your definition for small claims:

045-2. Please indicate the value in \in of a small claim:

[25 000]

Comments

C. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 42, 43 and 45:

Sources: www.rechtspraak.nl

3.2. Court staff

3.2.1.Judges and non-judge staff

046. Number of professional judges sitting in courts (if possible on 31 December of the reference year). (Please give the information in full-time equivalent and for permanent posts actually filled for all types of courts - general jurisdiction and specialised courts)

	Total	Males	Females
Total number of professional judges $(1 + 2 + 3)$	2 522	1 006	1 516
jj	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
1. Number of first instance professional judges	1 907	694	1 213
J	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
2. Number of second instance (court of appeal)	582	292	290
professional judges	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA
professional Judges	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
3. Number of Supreme Court professional	33	20	13
judges	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA
Judges	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

Comment - Please provide any useful comment for interpreting the data above: We did not receive information on the number of judges (in fte) working at the High Court. There are 33 judges at the High Court (people, not fte), 20 male / 13 female. Since this concerns only 1% of all judges, we'd suggest to work with these numbers (and accept the small deviation in the calulated total number)

047. Number of court presidents (professional judges).

	Total	Males	Females
Total number of court presidents $(1 + 2 + 3)$	17	10	7
	[] NA [] NAP	[]NA []NAP	[]NA []NAP
1. Number of first instance court presidents	10	4	6
	[] NA [] NAP	[] NA [] NAP	[]NA []NAP
2. Number of second instance (court of appeal)	6	5	1
court presidents	[]NA []NAP	[] NA [] NAP	[] NA [] NAP
3. Number of Supreme Court presidents	1	1	0
	[] NA [] NAP	[] NA [] NAP	[] NA [] NAP

Comments

048. Number of professional judges sitting in courts on an occasional basis and who are paid as such (if possible on 31 December of the reference year):

	Figure
Gross figure	
	[X] NA
	[] NAP

In full-time equivalent	
	[X] NA
	[] NAP

Comments - If necessary, please provide comments to explain the answer provided: In the Dutch court system, people (with legal education and experience) can handle cases occasionally. They are appointed as a judge but are not employed by a court (most have a main job as lawyer of professor). They will be asked for assistance in busy times, and receive a fixed fee (per hearing) to cover their expenses So, they are no paid as a judge according to Q 48 but they rather fit the payment situation of Q49. On the one hand, they could be considered either as 'non-professional' since being a judge is not their main job; on the other hand, they are (or have been) employed as a professional in the field of Law. And being formally appointed as a judge would be reason to see them as 'professional judge'.

048-1. Do these professional judges sitting in courts on an occasional basis deal with a significant part of cases?

() Yes If yes, please give specifications on the types of cases and an estimate in percentage.

(X) No

[] NAP

Comments In the Dutch court system, people (with legal education and experience) can handle cases occasionally. They are appointed as a judge but are not employed by a court (most have a main job as lawyer of professor). They will be asked for assistance in busy times, and receive a fixed fee (per hearing) to cover their expenses So, they are no paid as a judge according to Q 48 but they rather fit the payment situation of Q49. On the one hand, they could be considered either as 'non-professional' since being a judge is not their main job; on the other hand, they are (or have been) employed as a professional in the field of Law. And being formally appointed as a judge would be reason to see them as 'professional judge'.

049. Number of non-professional judges who are not remunerated but who can possibly receive a simple defrayal of costs (if possible on 31 December of the reference year) (e.g. lay judges or "juges consulaires", but not arbitrators or persons sitting in a jury):

	Figure
Gross figure	[X] NA [] NAP
In full time equivalent	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments In the Dutch court system, people (with legal education and experience) can handle cases occasionally. They are appointed as a judge but are not employed by a court (most have a main job as lawyer of professor). They will be asked for assistance in busy times, and receive a fixed fee (per hearing) to cover their expenses So, they are no paid as a judge according to Q 48 but they rather fit the payment situation of Q49. On the one hand, they could be considered either as 'non-professional' since being a judge is not their main job; on the other hand, they are (or have been) employed as a professional in the field of Law. And being formally appointed as a judge would be reason to see them as 'professional judge'.

049-1. If such non-professional judges exist at first instance in your country, please specify for which types of cases:

	Yes	No	Echevinage
criminal cases (severe)	()	(X)	()

criminal cases (misdemeanour and/or minor)	(X)	()	()
family law cases	(X)	()	()
labour law cases	(X)	()	()
social law cases	(X)	()	()
commercial law cases	(X)	()	()
insolvency cases	(X)	()	()
other civil cases	()	(X)	()

[] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify:

050. Does your judicial system include trial by jury with the participation of citizens?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

050-1. If yes, for which type of case(s)?

[] Criminal cases

]

[] Other than criminal cases

Comments

051. Number of citizens who were involved in such juries for the year of reference:

[[] NA [X] NAP

Comments

052. Number of non-judge staff who are working in courts (if possible on 31 December of the reference year) (this data should not include the staff working for public prosecutors; see question 60) (please give the information in full-time equivalent and for permanent posts actually filled)

	Total	Males	Females
Total non-judge staff working in courts $(1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5)$	7 492 []NA []NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
1. Rechtspfleger (or similar bodies) with judicial or quasi-judicial tasks having autonomous competence and whose decisions could be subject to appeal	[] NA [X] NAP	[]NA [X]NAP	[] NA [X] NAP

2. Non-judge staff whose task is to assist the	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
judges such as registrars (case file preparation,	[] NAP	[]NAP	[] NAP
assistance during the hearing, court recording,			
helping to draft the decisions)			
3. Staff in charge of different administrative			
tasks and of the management of the courts	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
(human resources management, material and	[] NAP	[]NAP	[] NAP
equipment management, including computer			
systems, financial and budgetary management,			
training management)			
4. Technical staff			
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
5. Other non-judge staff			
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

Comments - If "other non-judge staff", please specify:

052-1. Number of non-judge staff by instance (if possible on 31 December of the reference year) (this data should not include the staff working for public prosecutors; see question 60) (please give the information in full-time equivalent and for permanent posts actually filled)

	Total	Males	Females
Total non-judge staff working in courts	7 492		
(1+2+3)	[] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
(1+2+3)	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
1. Total non-judge staff working in courts at			
first instance level	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
2. Total non-judge staff working in courts at			
second instance (court of appeal) level	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
second instance (court of appeal) level	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
3. Total non-judge staff working in courts at			
Supreme Court level	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
Supreme Court level	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

Comments The total of non-judge staff does not include staff of the High Court.

053. If there are Rechtspfleger (or similar bodies) in your judicial system, please specify in which fields do they have a role:

- [] legal aid
- [] family cases
- [] payment orders
- [] registry cases (land and/or business registry cases)
- [] enforcement of civil cases
- [] enforcement of criminal cases

[] other cases not mentioned (please describe in comment)

[] non-litigious cases

[X] NAP

Comments - Please briefly describe their status and duties:

054. Have the courts outsourced certain services under their responsibilities to external providers?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

054-1. If yes, please specify which services have been outsourced:

- [] IT services
- [] Training of staff
- [X] Security
- [] Archives
- [X] Cleaning
- [] Other types of services (please specify):

Comments

C1. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 46, 47, 48, 49 and 52

Sources: The Council for the Judiciary

3.3. Public prosecution

3.3.1.Public prosecutors and staff

055. Number of public prosecutors (on 31 December of the reference year). Please give the information in full-time equivalent and for permanent posts actually filled for all types of courts - general jurisdiction and specialised courts.

	Total	Males	Females
Total number of prosecutors $(1 + 2 + 3)$			
-	[] NA	[]NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
1. Number of prosecutors at first instance level			
-	[] NA	[]NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
2. Number of prosecutors at second instance			
(court of appeal) level	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA
(court of appear) level	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

3. Number of prosecutors at Supreme Court			
level	[]NA	[]NA	[]NA
	[]NAP	[]NAP	[]NAP

Please indicate any useful comment for interpreting the data above:

056. Number of heads of prosecution offices.

	Total	Males	Females	
Total number of heads of prosecution offices (1				
+2+3)	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
+ 2 + 3)	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	
1. Number of heads of prosecution offices at				
-	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
first instance level	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	
2 Number of bases of procession offices at				
2. Number of heads of prosecution offices at	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
second instance (court of appeal) level	[]NA []NAP	[]NAP	[]NAP	
3. Number of heads of prosecution offices at				
Supreme Court level	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
Supreme Court level	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	

Please provide any useful comment for interpreting the data above:

057. Do other persons have similar duties to those of public prosecutors?

() Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, please specify their title and functions:

057-1. Please specify their number (in full-time equivalent):

[] NA

059. If yes, is their number included in the number of public prosecutors that you have indicated under question 55?

() Yes () No [] NAP

Comments

059-1. Do prosecution offices have specially trained prosecutors in domestic violence and sexual violence ?

- () Yes
- () No

Comments

060. Number of staff (non-public prosecutors) attached to the public prosecution services (on 31

December of the reference year) (without the number of non-judge staff, see question 52) (in full-time equivalent and for permanent posts actually filled).

	Total	Males	Females
Number of staff (non-public prosecutors)			
attached to the public prosecution service	[] NA	[] NA	[]NA

Comments

C2. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 55, 56 and 60

Sources:

3.4. Gender equality

3.4.1 Specific provisions for facilitating gender equality

061-2. Are there specific provisions for facilitating gender equality within the framework of the procedures for recruiting :

	Yes, please specify	No
judges	()	(X)
prosecutors	()	(X)
non-judge staff	()	(X)
lawyers	()	(X)
notaries	()	(X)
enforcement agents	()	(X)

[]NA

Comments - if the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments. If you have additional comments please specify:

061-3. Are there specific provisions for facilitating gender equality within the framework of the procedures for promoting :

	Yes, please specify	No
judges	()	(X)
prosecutors	()	(X)

non-judge staff	()	(X)
lawyers	()	(X)
notaries	()	(X)
enforcement agents	()	(X)

[]NA

Comments - if the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments. If you have additional comments please specify:

3.4.2 At national level

061-4. Do you have, at national level, one or more recent surveys or reports related to - wholly or partly - the distribution males/females within the judicial system concerning:

	Yes	No
judges	(X)	()
prosecutors	(X)	()
non-judge staff	(X)	()
lawyers	(X)	()
notaries	(X)	()
enforcement agents	(X)	()

Comments - If the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments. Could you specify the reference or internet link of this/these document(s) or send it/them to us? All professional groups mentioned in 061-4 report the distribution of males/females in their annual reports.

061-5. Is there a national programme or an orientation document to promote males/females equality within the judicial system?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments - if the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments. Could you specify the reference or internet link of this/these document(s) or send it/them to us?

061-6. At national level, is there any specific person (e.g. an equal opportunities commissioner)/institution dealing with gender issues in the justice system concerning:

	Yes, please specify	No
the recruitment of judges	()	(X)

the promotion of judges	()	(X)
the recruitment of prosecutors	()	(X)
the promotion of prosecutors	()	(X)
the recruitment of non-judge staff	()	(X)
the promotion of non-judge staff	()	(X)

Comments - if other than recruitment and/or promotion, please specify. If the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments

061-6-1. Please specify the text which set up this person/institution :

(title, date, nature of the text)

[X] NAP

061-6-2. Please specify the status of this person/institution:

(e.g. independent, attached to the Ministry of Justice, to the High Judicial Council or equivalent or to an inter-ministerial institution specifically dedicated to gender equality)

[X] NAP

061-6-3. Please specify if this person/institution has an information and consultative function or if its opinions/decisions have legal consequences:

(e.g. block a decision or allow an appeal)

[X]NAP

3.4.3 At court/public prosecution services level

061-7. At the court or public prosecution services level, is there a person (e.g. an equal opportunities commissioner)/institution specifically dedicated to ensure the respect of gender equality in the organisation of judicial work:

Yes	No

in courts (judges)	()	(X)
in public prosecution services (prosecutors)	()	(X)
for courts' non-judge staff	()	(X)

Comments - If yes, please specify their titles and tasks. If the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments.

061-8. Does the feminisation of certain functions, if it exists in your country, within courts or public prosecution services, lead to concrete changes in the organisation of the work in the following areas:

	Yes	No
Assignment in different positions	()	(X)
Workload distribution	()	(X)
Working hours	()	(X)
Modalities of teleworking and presence in the work space	()	(X)
Replacement of absent persons	()	(X)
Organisation of the hearings	()	(X)
Other	()	(X)

Comments - If other, please specify. Could you also indicate concrete examples referring to the various possibilities mentioned? If the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments.

061-9. In order to improve gender balance in access to different judicial professions and equality in promotion and in access to functions of responsibility, what are the measures, in your country, which:

have been already implemented (please specify) :

are planned (please specify) :

Comments - If the situation changed since reference year, please specify in the comments.

061-10. In your judicial system, and eventually based on evaluation, studies or official reports, what are the main causes of inequalities in:

recruitment procedures (please specify):

promotion procedures and access to the functions of responsibility (please specify) :

Comments - If the situation changed since reference year, please specify in the comments.

[X]NAP

061-11. In your courts, is there particular attention given to gender issues regarding the public and users of justice, in particular:

	Yes, please specify	No
judges and court staff are more chosen among males or females according to the type of cases	()	(X)
the composition of hearings with several judges is always mixed	()	(X)
statistics exist concerning males and females who initiate a case/victims, accused persons, etc.	()	(X)

Comments - if you have additional comments please specify. If the situation changed since reference year, please specify in the comments. There is some concern in family cases (divorce, custody); it is not clear to what extend (and in what way) courts act upon this concern.

3.5 Use of information technologies in courts

3.5.1 General policies in Information Technology in judicial systems

062-1. Basic principles and models used in Information technology policies and strategies definition

Organisation

IT policies and strategies	() defined and coordinated at national level by one institution	
	() defined and coordinated at national	
	level by several institutions	
	() defined and coordinated at	
	unit/stakeholder level	
	(X) other	
IT Governance	() governed on national level by one	
	institution	
	() governed on national level by several	
	institutions	
	() organised at unit/stakeholder level	
	(X) other	

Comments There is not one policy or strategy that binds all the organizations active in the justice field (or country wide). There are projects that involve various partners, but these may still operate alone in other projects.

065-1. In case there is a national structure in charge of the strategic policy making and governance of the judicial system modernisation (including also IT) what is the composition of this structure?

- () administrative, technical and scientific staff only
- () mixed teams of judicial staff (judges/prosecutors/etc.) and administrative/technical/scientific staff
- (X) other (please specify in a comment)

Comments - (please specify if there are other modernisation approaches that have been implemented): The answer is no.

065-2. Which is the organisational model primarily chosen for conducting structural IT projects in courts and the management of applications (maintenance, evolution)?

	Implementing new projects	Management of applications
Mainly by an IT department with the help of professionals in the field (judges, prosecutors, non-judge judicial staff,	(X)Yes ()No	(X)Yes ()Non
etc.)		
Mainly by professionals in the field (judges, prosecutors,	() Yes	() Yes
non-judge judicial staff, etc.) with the help of an internal IT	(X) No	(X) Non
department and/or an external service provider		
Other alternatives (external service provider only – specify	() Yes	() Yes
in a comment)	(X) No	(X)Non

Comments - please also describe in case of "other alternatives"

065-3. Is there a device of detection and promotion of innovations regarding IT coming from personal and/or local/court level initiatives?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments (please specify projects that have experienced national developments)

065-4. Have you measured the impact resulting from the implementation of one or several

components of your new information system?

() Yes

(X) No

In 2018 an ambitious Court IT project ('Quality and Innovation') was discontinued after severe financial losses (220 million).

065-4-1. If yes, have you measured the impact on (multiple answers possible):

[] Business processes
[] Workload

- [] Human resources
- [] Costs
- [] Other, please specify

Comments (please specify examples of the impact)

3.5.2 Security of courts information system and personal data protection

065-5. Are there independent audits or other mechanisms to contribute to the global security policy regarding the information system of the judiciary ?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments (please specify in particular if national frameworks of information security exist): No information available

065-6. Is the protection of personal data managed by courts ensured at legislative level?

(X)Yes

() No

Comment - If yes, please specify among others: if there are authorities specifically responsible for protection of personal data; the extent of the rights granted to citizens in the specific framework of software used by courts; if there are controls or limitations by law regarding the sharing of databases managed by courts with other administrations (police, etc.) Data on the identity of parties in court cases are not available to the general public or third parties (unless they participate in the court procedure). Cases / decisions that are published are anonymized.

3.5.3 Centralised databases for decision support

062-4. Is there a centralised national database of court decisions (case-law, etc.)?

(X)Yes

() Non

Comments

062-4-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

For 1st instance decisions	For 2nd instance decisions		Link with ECHR case law	anonymised	database available	Case-law database available in open data
----------------------------------	----------------------------------	--	-------------------------------	------------	-----------------------	---

Civil and/or commercial	() Yes all	() Yes all	() Yes all	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	judgements	judgements	judgements	() No	() No	() No	() No
	(X)Yes	(X)Yes	(X)Yes				
	some	some	some				
	judgements	judgements	judgements				
	() No	() No	() No				
Criminal	() Yes all	() Yes all	() Yes all	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	judgements	judgements	judgements	() No	() No	() No	() No
	(X) Yes	(X) Yes	(X) Yes				
	some	some	some				
	judgements	judgements	judgements				
	() No	() No	() No				
Administrative	() Yes all	() Yes all	() Yes all	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	judgements	judgements	judgements	() No	() No	() No	() No
	(X)Yes	(X)Yes	(X)Yes				
	some	some	some				
	judgements	judgements	judgements				
	() No	() No	() No				

Comments - if it exists in other matters please specify

062-6. Is there a computerised national record centralising all criminal convictions?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

062-6-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

[] Linkage with other European records of the same nature

[] Content directly available through computerised means for judges and/or prosecutors

[] Content directly available for purposes other than criminal (civil and administrative matters)

Comments - Please specify who is the authority delivering the access

3.5.4 Writing assistance tools

062-7. Are there writing assistance tools for which the content is coordinated at national level? (models or templates, paragraphs already pre-written, etc.)

(X)Yes

() No

Comment - if it exists in other matters please specify

062-7-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

Availability rate

Civil and/or commercial	() 100%
	() 50-99%
	() 10-49%
	() 1-9%
	() 0% (NAP)
	[X] NA
Criminal	() 100%
	() 50-99%
	() 10-49%
	() 1-9%
	() 0% (NAP)
	[X] NA
Administrative	() 100%
	() 50-99%
	() 10-49%
	() 1-9%
	() 0% (NAP)
	[X] NA

062-8. Are there voice recording tools?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments A value must be entered for each question ! I am unable to answer yes or no, because I don't know.

062-8-1. If yes, please specify:

	Availability of simple dictation tools	Availability of multiple speakers recording tools	Voice recognition feature
Civil and/or commercial	 () in all courts () in most of the courts () in some courts / some pilot phases () not available for this matter [X]NA 	 () in all courts () in most of the courts () in some courts / some pilot phases () not available for this matter [X] NA 	 () Yes () Pilot testing () No [] NA
Criminal	 () in all courts () in most of the courts () in some courts / some pilot phases () not available for this matter [X] NA 	 () in all courts () in most of the courts () in some courts / some pilot phases () not available for this matter [X] NA 	 () Yes () Pilot testing () No [] NA

Administrative	() in all courts() in most of the	() in all courts() in most of the	() Yes() Pilot testing
	courts	courts	() No
	() in some courts /	() in some courts /	[] NA
	some pilot phases	some pilot phases	
	() not available for	() not available for	
	this matter	this matter	
	[X] NA	[X] NA	

062-9. Is there an intranet site within the judicial system for distribution of news/novelties?

Availability rate:

- (X) 100% accessible to everyone in judiciary
- () 50-99% accessible for most judges/prosecutors in all instances
- () 10-49% in some courts only
- () 1-9% in one court only
- () 0% (NAP) No access

[] NA

Comments

3.5.5 Technologies used for administration of the courts and case management

063-1. Is there a case management system (CMS) ? (Software used for registering judicial proceedings and their management)

(X) Yes

() No

Comments - if it exists in other matters please specify For the reply on "Status of case online" the offered options are not applicable for Netherlands since only lawyers can access the case online and not the parties themselves if not represented by lawyer. There are many parties in court cases who are not represented by a lawyer.

063-1-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	CMS deployment rate	Status of case online	Centralised or interoperable database	Early warning signals (for active case management)	Status of integration/conn ection of a CMS with a statistical tool
Civil and/or commercial	(X)100% ()50-99% ()10-49% ()1-9% ()0%(NAP) []NA	 () accessible to parties () publication of decision online () both () not accessible at all [] NA [] NAP 	(X)Yes ()No []NA []NAP	() Yes (X) No []NA []NAP	 () Fully integrated including BI (X) Integrated () Not integrated but connected () Not connected at all [] NA [] NA

Criminal	(X) 100% () 50-99% () 10-49% () 1-9% () 0% (NAP) [] NA	 () accessible to parties () publication of decision online () both () not accessible at all [] NA [] NA 	(X)Yes ()No []NA []NAP	() Yes (X) No []NA []NAP	 () Fully integrated including BI (X) Integrated () Not integrated but connected () Not connected at all [] NA [] NAP
Administrative	(X) 100% () 50-99% () 10-49% () 1-9% () 0% (NAP) [] NA	 () accessible to parties () publication of decision online () both () not accessible at all [] NA [] NAP 	(X)Yes ()No []NA []NAP	() Yes (X) No []NA []NAP	 () Fully integrated including BI (X) Integrated () Not integrated but connected () Not connected at all [] NA [] NAP

063-2. Computerised registries managed by courts

	Deployment rate	Data consolidated at national level	Service available online	Statistical module integrated or connected
Land registry	 () 100% () 50-99% () 10-49% () 1-9% (X) 0% (NAP) 	() Yes () No	() Yes () No	() Yes () No
Business registry	 []] NA () 100% () 50-99% () 10-49% () 1-9% (X) 0% (NAP) 	() Yes () No	() Yes () No	() Yes () No

Comment - if it exists in other matters please specify

063-6. Budgetary and financial management systems of courts

Tool deployment rate	Data consolidated at national level	System communicating with other ministries (financial among others)
----------------------	-------------------------------------	---

Budgetary and financial management of courts	(X) 100%	(X)Yes	() Yes
	() 50-99%	() No	(X) No
	() 10-49%		
	() 1-9%		
	() 0% (NAP)		
	[] NA		
Justice expenses management	() 100%	() Yes	() Yes
	() 50-99%	() No	() No
	() 10-49%		
	() 1-9%		
	() 0% (NAP)		
	[X] NA		
Other (please specify in comments)	() 100%	() Yes	() Yes
	() 50-99%	() No	() No
	() 10-49%		
	() 1-9%		
	() 0% (NAP)		
	[X] NA		

Comments

063-7. Measurement tools to assess the workload of judges, prosecutors and/or non-judge/non-prosecutor staff (tool quantifying the activity of judges, prosecutors and/or non-judge/non-prosecutor staff – for example the number of cases resolved)

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

063-7-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	Tools deployment rate	Data used for monitoring at national level	Data used for monitoring at court local level	Tool integrated in the CMS
For judges	 () 100% () 50-99% () 10-49% () 1-9% () 0% (NAP) [] NA 	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP
For prosecutors	 () 100% () 50-99% () 10-49% () 1-9% () 0% (NAP) 	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP
For non-judge/non-prosecutor staff	 () 100% () 50-99% () 10-49% () 1-9% () 0% (NAP) [] NA 	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP

3.5.6 Technologies used for communication between courts, professionals and/or court users

064-2. Is there a possibility to submit a case to courts by electronic means?(possibility to introduce a case by electronic means, for example an e-mail or a form on a website)

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

	Availability rate	Simultaneous submission of cases in paper form remains mandatory	Specific legislative framework authorising the submission of a case	An integrated/connect ed tool with the CMS
Civil and/or commercial	 () 100% () 50-99% () 10-49% () 1-9% () 0% (NAP) [X] NA 	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP
Criminal	 () 100% () 50-99% () 10-49% () 1-9% () 0% (NAP) [X] NA 	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP
Administrative	 () 100% () 50-99% () 10-49% () 1-9% () 0% (NAP) [X] NA 	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP

Comments - if it exist in other matters please specify There is limited availability to submit cases electronically. A major project was discontinued because of excessive (not budgetted) costs. Status of various initiatives is unclear, we can not provide an answer to all questions.

064-3. Is it possible to request legal aid by electronic means?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments Almost all requests can be done electronically, except mediation requests and some other small groups.

064-3-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

Requesting legal aid electronically

Availability rate	(X) 100%
	() 50-99%
	() 10-49%
	() 1-9%
	() 0% (NAP)
	[]NA
Formalisation of the request in paper form remains mandatory	() Yes
	(X) No
	[] NA
	[] NAP
Specific legislative framework regarding requests for legal aid by electronic	() Yes
means	(X) No
	[] NA
	[] NAP
Granting legal aid is also electronic	(X)Yes
	() No
	[] NA
	[] NAP
Information available in CMS	() Yes
	(X) No
	[] NA
	[] NAP

064-4. Is it possible to transmit summons to a judicial meeting or a hearing by electronic means? (a judicial meeting relates to stages prior to a court hearing, with a view to mediation or conciliation)

() Yes

(X) No

Comments It might be possible for lawyers and/or public prosecutors

064-4-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	Summons produced by CMS	Simultaneous summon in paper form remains mandatory	Consent of the user to be notified by electronic means	Modalities (if other please specify in comments)	Specific legislative framework
Civil and/or commercial	[]		[]	[] SMS [] E-mail [] Specific computer application [] Other	[]
Criminal	[]	[]	[]	[] SMS [] E-mail [] Specific computer application [] Other	[]

Administrative	[]	[]	[]	[] SMS	[]
				[] E-mail	
				[] Specific	
				computer	
				application	
				[] Other	

064-6. Are there possibilities of electronic communication between courts and lawyers and/or parties? (sending of electronic files and data concerning a judicial proceeding with or without scanned documents, mainly to develop dematerialised communication)

Communication between court and lawyers representing parties

(X)Yes

() No

Communication between court and parties not represented by lawyer

(X)Yes

() No

Comments There can be communication on the planning of court meetings or procedural issues. Communication on the case itself is a sensitive matter.

064-6-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	Tool deployment rate	Trial phases concerned	Modalities (if there are different according to the trial phases or if other, please specify in a comment)	Specific legal framework
Civil and/or commercial	 [] 100% [] 50-99% [] 10-49% [] 1-9% [] 0% (NAP) - for this matter [] NA 	 [] Submission of a case to a court [] Phases preparatory to a hearing [X] Schedule of hearings and/or appeals management [] Transmission of court decisions 	[X] E-mail [] Specific computer application [] Other	[] Yes

				I
Criminal	[] 100%	[] Submission	[X]E-mail	[] Yes
	[] 50-99%	of a case to a court	[] Specific	
	[] 10-49%	[] Phases	computer application	
	[] 1-9%	preparatory to a	[] Other	
	[] 0% (NAP) -	hearing		
	for this matter	[X] Schedule of		
	[] NA	hearings and/or		
		appeals management		
		[]		
		Transmission of		
		court decisions		
Administrative	[X]100%	[] Submission	[X]E-mail	[]Yes
	[] 50-99%	of a case to a court	[] Specific	
	[] 10-49%	[] Phases	computer application	
	[] 1-9%	preparatory to a	[] Other	
	[] 0% (NAP) -	hearing		
	for this matter	[X] Schedule of		
	[] NA	hearings and/or		
		appeals management		
		[]		
		Transmission of		
		court decisions		

064-7. Terms and conditions of electronic communication used by professionals other than lawyers (sending of electronic data concerning a judicial proceeding with or without scanned documents, mainly to develop dematerialised communication)

	Tool deployment rate	Modalities (if there are different according to the deeds or if other, please specify in a comment)	Specific legal framework
Enforcement agents (as defined in Q169 and following)	[] 100% [] 50-99% [] 10-49% [] 1-9% [] 0% (NAP) [X] NA	[X] E-mail [] Specific computer application [] Other	[]Yes
Notaries (as defined in Q192 and following)	[] 100% [] 50-99% [] 10-49% [] 1-9% [] 0% (NAP) [X] NA	[] E-mail [] Specific computer application [] Other	[]Yes
Experts (as defined in Q202 and following)	[] 100% [] 50-99% [] 10-49% [] 1-9% [] 0% (NAP) [X] NA	[] E-mail [] Specific computer application [] Other	[] Yes

Judicial police services	[] 100% [] 50-99%	[] E-mail [] Specific	[] Yes
	[] 10-49%	computer application	
	[] 1-9%	[] Other	
	[] 0% (NAP)		
	[X] NA		

Comments There certainly is a possibility for bailiffs to submit cases in electronic form. For other professional parties, this is not clear.

064-9. Are there online processing devices of specialised litigation? (low value litigation, undisputed claims, preparatory phases to the resolution of family conflicts, etc. – please, specify in "comments" section)

() Yes

(X) No

Comments - Please describe the system that exists.

064-10. Videoconferencing between courts, professionals and/or users (this concerns the use of audio-visual devices in the framework of judicial proceedings such as the hearing of parties, etc.)

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

064-10-1. If yes, please specify the following information and describe in comments of this section the cases of actual use of videoconferencing and the expected benefits (for example, the use of this device to reduce the number of detainees' transfers to the court):

	Deployment rate (chose one only)	Proceeding phase	Specific legislative framework
Civil and/or commercial	[] 100%	[] Prior to the	[]Yes
	[] 50-99%	hearing	[] No
	[] 10-49%	[] During the	
	[X] 1-9%	hearing	
	[] 0% (NAP)	[] After the hearing	
	[] NA		
Criminal	[] 100%	[] Prior to the	[]Yes
	[] 50-99%	hearing	[] No
	[] 10-49%	[] During the	
	[X]1-9%	hearing	
	[] 0% (NAP)	[] After the hearing	
	[] NA		
Administrative	[] 100%	[] Prior to the	[]Yes
	[] 50-99%	hearing	[] No
	[] 10-49%	[] During the	
	[X]1-9%	hearing	
	[] 0% (NAP)	[] After the hearing	
	[]NA		

Comments Videocommunication is commonly used between court locations, between local judges and court personnel. The use of video

064-11. Recording of hearings or debates (sound or audio-visual recording during the investigation and/or trial phase(s))

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

064-11-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	Tool deployment rate	Type of recording	Specific legislative framework
Civil and/or commercial	 () 100% () 50-99% () 10-49% () 1-9% () 0% (NAP) [X] NA 	() Sound () Video () Both [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP
Criminal	 () 100% () 50-99% () 10-49% () 1-9% () 0% (NAP) [X] NA 	() Sound () Video () Both [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP
Administrative	 () 100% () 50-99% () 10-49% () 1-9% () 0% (NAP) [X] NA 	() Sound () Video () Both [] NA [] NAP	() Yes () No [] NA [] NAP

064-12. Is electronic evidence admissible?

	Admissibility of electronic evidence	Legislative framework
Civil and/or commercial	() Yes () No	 () General law only () General and specialised law
Criminal	() Yes () No	 () Specialised law only () General law only () General and specialised law
Administrative	() Yes () No	 () Specialised law only () General law only () General and specialised
		law () Specialised law only

Comments

3.6.Performance and evaluation

066. Are quality standards determined for the judicial system at national level (are there quality systems for the judiciary and/or judicial quality policies)?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

067. Do you have specialised personnel entrusted with implementation of these national level quality standards?

	Yes / No
within the courts	(X)Yes ()No
within the public prosecution services	(X) Yes () No

Comments

3.6.2.Performance and quality objectives at court level/public prosecution services

077. Concerning court activities, have you defined performance and quality indicators?

- (X) Yes
- () No

Comments

078. If yes, please select the main performance and quality indicators that have been defined for courts:

- [] number of incoming cases
- [X] length of proceedings (timeframes)
- [X] number of resolved cases
- [] number of pending cases
- [] backlogs
- [] productivity of judges and court staff
- [X] satisfaction of court staff
- [X] satisfaction of users (regarding the services delivered by the courts)
- [] costs of the judicial procedures
- [] number of appeals
- [] appeal ratio
- [] clearance rate
- [] disposition time

C

[] other (please specify):

Comments

077-1. Concerning public prosecution activities, have you defined performance and quality indicators?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

078-1. If yes, please select the main performance and quality indicators for the public prosecution services that have been defined:

- [] number of incoming cases
- [X] length of proceedings (timeframes)
- [X] number of resolved cases
- [] number of pending cases
- [] backlogs
- [] productivity of prosecutors and prosecution staff
- [] satisfaction of prosecution staff
- [] satisfaction of users (regarding the services delivered by the public prosecutors)
- [] costs of the judicial procedures
- [] clearance rate
- [] disposition time
- [] percentage of convictions and acquittals
- [] other (please specify):

Comments

073. Do you have a system to evaluate regularly court performance based primarily on the defined indicators?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

073-0. If yes, please specify the frequency:

(X) Annual

- () Less frequent
- () More frequent

Comments - If "less frequent" or "more frequent", please specify:

073-1. Is this evaluation of the court activity used for the later allocation of resources within this court?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

073-2. If yes, which courses of action are taken?

[X] Identifying to the causes of improved or deteriorated performance

- [] Reallocating resources (human/financial resources based on performance (treatment)
- [] Reengineering of internal procedures to increase efficiency (treatment)
- [] Other (please specify):

Comments

073-3. Do you have a system to evaluate regularly the performance of the public prosecution services based primarily on the defined indicators?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

073-4. If yes, please specify the frequency:

(X) Annual

- () Less frequent
- () More frequent

Comments - If "less frequent" or "more frequent", please specify:

073-5. Is this evaluation of the activity of public prosecution services used for the later allocation of resources within this public prosecution service?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

073-6. If yes, which courses of action are taken?

- [] Identifying to the causes of improved or deteriorated performance
- [] Reallocating resources (human/financial resources based on performance (treatment))
- [] Reengineering of internal procedures to increase efficiency (treatment)
- [X] Other (please specify):

Comments Each three years, the amount of money is defined. The public prosecutors got a fixed amount and an amount of resources based on the amount of cases they dealt with.

079. Who is responsible for evaluating the performance of the courts (multiple options possible) :

[X] High Judicial Council

- [] Ministry of Justice
- [] Inspection authority

[] Supreme Court

- [] External audit body
- [] Other (please specify):

079-1. Who is responsible for evaluating the performance of the public prosecution services (multiple options possible) :

- [] Public prosecutorial Council
- [] Ministry of Justice
- [] Head of the organisational unit or hierarchical superior public prosecutor
- [X] Prosecutor General /State public prosecutor
- [] External audit body
- [] Other (please specify):

Comments The "College van Procureurs-Generaal" are in charge of the public prosecution. The evaluation of performance is carried out by their Staff Bureau, the "Parket-Generaal".

3.6.3. Measuring courts' / public prosecution services activity

070. Do you regularly monitor court activities (performance and quality) concerning:

- [X] number of incoming cases
- [X] length of proceedings (timeframes)
- [X] number of resolved cases
- [X] number of pending cases
- [X] backlogs
- [] productivity of judges and court staff
- [X] satisfaction of court staff
- [X] satisfaction of users (regarding the services delivered by the courts)
- [] costs of the judicial procedures
- [X] number of appeals
- [] appeal ratio
- [] clearance rate
- [X] disposition time
- [] other (please specify):

Comments

070-1. Do you regularly monitor public prosecution activities (performance and quality) concerning:

[X] number of incoming cases

- [] length of proceedings (timeframes)
- [X] number of resolved cases

[] number of pending cases
[] backlogs
[] productivity of prosecutors and prosecution staff
[] satisfaction of prosecution staff
[] satisfaction of users (regarding the services delivered by the by the public prosecution)
[] costs of the judicial procedures
[] clearance rate
[] disposition time
[] percentage of convictions and acquittals
[] other (please specify):

071. Do you monitor the number of pending cases and cases that are not processed within a reasonable timeframe (backlogs) for:

- [X] civil law cases
- [X] criminal law cases
- [X] administrative law cases

Comments

072. Do you monitor waiting time during judicial proceedings?

	Yes (If yes, please specify)	No
within the courts	()	(X)
within the public prosecution services	()	(X)

Comments

3.6.4.Information regarding courts /public prosecution services activity

080. Is there a centralised institution that is responsible for collecting statistical data regarding the functioning of the courts?

(X) Yes (please indicate the name and the address of this institution):Council for the Judiciary

() No

 $Comments\ https://www.rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Raad-voor-de-rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Raad-voor-de-rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Raad-voor-de-rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Raad-voor-de-rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Raad-voor-de-rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Raad-voor-de-rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Raad-voor-de-rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Raad-voor-de-rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Raad-voor-de-rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Raad-voor-de-rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Raad-voor-de-rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Raad-voor-de-rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisat$

080-1. Does this institution publish statistics on the functioning of each court:

(X) Yes, on internet

- () No, only internally (in an intranet website)
- () No

Comments

080-2. Is there a centralised institution that is responsible for collecting statistical data regarding the functioning of the public prosecution services?

(X) Yes (please indicate the name and the address of this institution):Public Prosecutors Office

() No

Comments Various annual statistics are published by the Public Prosecutors Office, the WODC and the CBS

080-3. Does this institution publish statistics on the functioning of each public prosecution

service?

- () Yes, on internet
- () No, only internally (in an intranet website)

(X) No

Comments Generally, the statistics published are on national level, not by region (arrondissement)

081. Are individual courts required to prepare an activity report (that includes, for example, data on the number of resolved cases or pending cases, the number of judges and administrative staff, targets and assessment of the activity)?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments - If yes, please describe the content of the report and its audience (i.e. to whom the report is intended): An annual report for all courts is published. Some Courts still publish an individual annual report. This is not required.

081-1. If yes, please specify in which form this report is released:

- [] Internet
- [] Intranet (internal) website
- [] Paper distribution

Comments

081-2. If yes, please, indicate the periodicity at which the report is released:

() Annual

- () Less frequent
- () More frequent

Comments

081-3. Are public prosecution services required to prepare an activity report (that includes, for example, data on the number of incoming cases, the number of decisions, the number of public prosecutors and administrative staff, targets and assessment of the activity)?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments - If yes, please describe the content of the report and its audience (i.e. to whom the report is intended):

081-4. If yes, please specify in which form this report is released:

[] Internet

- [] Intranet (internal) website
- [] Paper distribution

Comments

081-5. If yes, please, indicate the periodicity at which the report is released:

- () Annual
- () Less frequent
- () More frequent

Comments

3.6.5 Courts administration

082. Is there a process or structure of dialogue between the public prosecution services and courts regarding the way cases are presented before courts (for example the organisation, number and planning of hearings, on-call service for urgent cases, selection of simplified procedures of prosecution...)?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, please specify: Annual, the Court and the public prosecutors office, at local level, make up a contract on the number of cases that will be brought before the Court. Big cases, taking several days (or weeks) in Court, are planned individually.

082-1. Is there in general a process or structure of dialogue between lawyers and courts regarding the way cases are presented before courts in other than criminal matters (e.g. organisation, number and planning of hearings, on-call service for urgent cases)?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, please specify: In normal cases, lawyers are not involved in the planning. Nevertheless, they can request for a change of date / time. Big cases that take several days in court are planned in dialogue with the lawyers

3.6.6 Performance and evaluation of judges and public prosecutors

083. Are there quantitative performance targets defined for each judge (e.g. the number of resolved cases in a month or year)?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

083-1. Who is responsible for setting the individual targets for each judge?

- [] Executive power (for example the Ministry of Justice)
- [] Legislative power

[] Judicial power (for example the High Judicial Council, Supreme Court)

[] President of the court

[] Other (please specify):

Comments NAP

114. Is there a system of qualitative individual assessment of the judges' work?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

114-1. If yes, please specify the frequency of this assessment:

- () Annual
- () Less frequent
- () More frequent

083-2. Are there quantitative performance targets defined for each public prosecutor (e.g. the number of decisions in a month or year)?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

083-3. Who is responsible for setting the individual targets for each public prosecutor

[] Executive power (for example the Ministry of Justice)

[] Prosecutor General /State public prosecutor

[] Public prosecutorial Council

[X] Head of the organisational unit or hierarchical superior public prosecutor

[] Other (please specify):

Comments

120. Is there a system of qualitative individual assessment of the public prosecutors' work?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

120-1. If yes, please specify the frequency of this assessment:

(X) Annual

() Less frequent

() More frequent

Comments

C4. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this chapter:

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4.Fair trial

4.1.Principles

4.1.1.Principles of fair trial

084. Percentage of first instance criminal in absentia judgments (cases in which the suspect is not attending the hearing in person nor is represented by a lawyer)?

[] NAP

Comments - Please add methodology for calculation used.

085. Is there a procedure to effectively challenge a judge, if a party considers that the judge is not impartial?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - Please could you briefly specify:

1

085-1. Ratio between the total number of initiated procedures of challenges and total number of finalised challenges (in the reference year):

[[X] NA

Comments 750 challenges in 2018 at 1st and 2nd instance courts. Of these, 20 were rewarded. There were 3 challenges at the High Court, none of which was rewarded. Note that judges may withdraw from the case themselves, after a challenge or when a challenge might come.

086. Is there in your country a monitoring system for the violations related to Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights?

[X] For civil procedures (non-enforcement)

[X] For civil procedures (timeframe)

[X] For criminal procedures (timeframe)

[] NAP

Comments - Please specify what are the terms and conditions of this monitoring system (information related to acknowledged violations by ECHR at the State/courts level; implementation of internal systems to prevent other violations (that are similar) and if possible to measure an evolution of the established violations):

086-1. Is there in your country a possibility to review a case after a decision on violation of human

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rights by the European Court of Human Rights?

(X)Yes

() No

[] NAP

Comments

D1. Please indicate the sources for answering questions in this chapter.

Sources: annual report of the Courts, annual report of the High Court

4.2. Timeframe of proceedings

4.2.1. General information

087. Are there specific procedures for urgent matters regarding:

- [X] civil cases
- [X] criminal cases
- [X] administrative cases
- [] There is no specific procedure for urgent matters

Comments - If yes, please specify:

088. Are there simplified procedures for:

- [] civil cases (small disputes)
- [X] criminal cases (misdemeanour cases)
- [] administrative cases
- [] There is no simplified procedure

Comments - If yes, please specify: In small civil disputes, there are less rules and costs (compared to 'bigger' cases). Since >95% of the civil commercial cases is considered a small cases, we do not view this procedure as a 'simplified' procedure.

088-1. For these simplified procedures, may judges deliver an oral judgement with a written order and without the full reasoning of the judgement ?

- [] civil cases
- [X] criminal cases
- [] administrative cases

Comments - If yes, please specify:

089. Do courts and lawyers have the possibility to conclude agreements on arrangements for processing cases (presentation of files, decisions on timeframes for lawyers to submit their conclusions and on dates of hearings)?

(X) Yes

Comments - If yes, please specify: In big criminal cases, the planning of the Court case is done in dialogue with the lawyers.

4.2.2. Case flow management – first instance

091. First instance courts: number of other than criminal law cases.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the first instance court
Total of other than criminal law	279 950	1 199 579	1 207 954	266 100	
cases (1+2+3+4)	[]NA	[] NA	[]NA	[] NA	[X] NA
	[]NAP	[] NAP	[]NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
1. Civil (and commercial) litigious cases (including litigious enforcement cases and if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3)	[X] NA [] NAP	134 710 []NA []NAP	136 326 [] NA [] NAP	40 981 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2. Non litigious cases (2.1+2.2+2.3)	[X] NA [] NAP	965 230 [] NA [] NAP	976 807 [] NA [] NAP	173 279 []NA []NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2.1. General civil (and commercial) non-litigious cases, e.g. uncontested payment orders, request for a change of name, non-litigious enforcement cases etc. (if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3; without registry cases and other cases, see categories 2.2 and 2.3)	[X]NA []NAP	965 230 []NA []NAP	976 807 [] NA [] NAP	173 279 []NA []NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2.2. Registry cases	[] NA	[]NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA
(2.2.1+2.2.2+2.2.3)	[X] NAP	[X]NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP
2.2.1. Non litigious land registry cases	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA
	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP
2.2.2 Non-litigious business registry cases	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA
	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP
2.2.3. Other registry cases	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA
	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP
2.3. Other non-litigious cases	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[X] NA
	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[] NAP
3. Administrative law cases	47 290 []NA []NAP	99 629 []NA []NAP	94 821 []NA []NAP	51 846 []NA []NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

 \bigcirc

4. Other cases					
	[] NA				
	[X] NAP				

Comments In the Netherlands, there are some registers that are kept by the judiciary. Those do not include a land- of business registry. See: https://www.rechtspraak.nl/Registers

Most registers are related to debt, bankruptcy and help or surveillance of people that are unable to handle their financial situation. There is also a register of 'nevenfuncties', which lists all the jobs/positions that judges fulfill next to being a judge. Mutations in these registers are not counted as court cases. For the category "other registry cases", since the Dutch system does not count mutations in the registers as court cases, the answer is NAP.

092. If courts deal with "civil (and commercial) non-litigious cases", please indicate the case categories included:

. Non-litigious cases include default judgements (undefended cases), unconquested requests (for instance husband and wife asking toghether for a divorce).

093. Please indicate the case categories included in the category "other cases":

. none

094. First instance courts: number of criminal law cases.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the first instance court
Total of criminal law cases	112 020	264 791	268 731	76 560	
(1+2+3)	[] NA [] NAP	[] NA [] NAP	[] NA [] NAP	[] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
1. Severe criminal cases	67 810	162 742	164 658	54 290	
	[]NA []NAP	[] NA [] NAP	[]NA []NAP	[]NA []NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2. Misdemeanour and / or minor	44 210	102 049	104 073	22 270	
criminal cases	[]NA []NAP	[] NA [] NAP	[]NA []NAP	[]NA []NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. Other cases				<u></u>	2. J
	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments - If you cannot make a distinction between misdemeanour criminal cases and severe criminal cases (according to the CEPEJ definitions), please indicate the categories of cases reported in the category "serious offences" and cases reported in the category "minor offences". If "Other cases" please specify:

4.2.3. Case flow management - second instance

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097. Second instance courts (appeal): Number of "other than criminal law" cases.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the second instance court	
Total of other than criminal law	27 980	23 500	24 992	27 940		
	[]NA	[]NA	[]NA	[]NA	[X] NA	
cases (1+2+3+4)	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	
1. Civil (and commercial)						
litigious cases (including litigious	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	
enforcement cases and if possible						
without administrative law cases,						
see category 3)						
2. Non litigious cases						
(2.1+2.2+2.3)	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	
([] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	
2.1. General civil (and						
commercial) non-litigious cases,	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	
e.g. uncontested payment orders,	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	
• • •						
request for a change of name,						
non-litigious enforcement cases						
etc. (if possible without						
administrative law cases, see						
category 3; without registry cases						
and other cases, see categories						
2.2 and 2.3)						
·						
2.2. Registry cases	[]NA	[] NA	[]NA	[] NA	[] NA	
(2.2.1+2.2.2+2.2.3)	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	
2.2.1 Non litizione lond modern						
2.2.1. Non litigious land registry	[] NA	[] NA	[]NA	[] NA	[] NA	
cases	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	
2.2.2 Non-litigious business						
•	[] NA	[] NA	[]NA	[] NA	[] NA	
registry cases	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	
2.2.3. Other registry cases						
2.2.0. Cutor regional outob	[]NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	
2.3. Other non-litigious cases						
	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	
3. Administrative law cases	14 770	10 701	11 593	13 880		
	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[X] NA	
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	
4. Other cases						
	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
	[X]NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	

Comments - If "Other cases" please specify If there is an appeal, cases are litigious in my view. I would tend to enter the value "0", but

since the question is being asked, you probably see things differently. So I chose the answer "NA"

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the second instance court
Total of criminal law cases	21 030	33 341	31 878	21 440	
(1+2+3)	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[X] NA
(1+2+3)	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
1. Severe criminal cases					
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
2. Misdemeanour and / or minor					
criminal cases	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
3. Other cases					
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X]NA	[X] NA	[X]NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

098. Second instance courts (appeal): Number of criminal law cases.

Comments - If you cannot make a distinction between misdemeanour criminal cases and severe criminal cases (according to the CEPEJ definitions), please indicate the categories of cases reported in the category "serious offences" and cases reported in the category "minor offences". If "Other cases", please specify.

4.2.4. Case flow management - Supreme Court

099. Highest instance courts (Supreme Court): Number of "other than criminal law" cases:

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the Supreme Court
Total of other than criminal law	920	1 353	1 236	1 037	
cases (1+2+3+4)	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[X] NA
cases (1+2+3+4)	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
1. Civil (and commercial)	380	429	431	378	
litigious cases (including litigious	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
enforcement cases and if possible					
without administrative law cases,					
see category 3)					
2. Non litigious cases					
(2.1+2.2+2.3)	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

2.1. General civil (and					
commercial) non-litigious cases,	[X] NA [] NAP				
e.g. uncontested payment orders,				[]NAP	[] NAP
request for a change of name,					
non-litigious enforcement cases					
etc. (if possible without					
administrative law cases, see					
category 3; without registry cases					
and other cases, see categories					
2.2 and 2.3)					
2.2. Registry cases					
(2.2.1+2.2.2+2.2.3)	[] NA				
(2.2.1+2.2.2+2.2.3)	[X] NAP				
2.2.1. Non litigious land registry					
cases	[] NA				
	[X] NAP				
2.2.2 Non-litigious business					
registry cases	[] NA				
	[X] NAP				
2.2.3. Other registry cases					
	[] NA				
	[X] NAP				
2.3. Other non-litigious cases					
	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA
	[X] NAP				
3. Administrative law cases	540	924	805	659	
	[]NA	[] NA	[]NA	[] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP				
4. Other cases					
	[X] NA				
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

Comments - If "Other cases", please specify Cases handled by the High Court are 'litigious' by nature (= cases are settled at first instance if one party remains inactive)

099-1. At the level of the Highest court (Supreme Court), is there a procedure of manifest inadmissibility?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

099-1-1. If yes, please indicate the number of:

cases received by the Highest court? []

cases closed by this procedure? [3 510]

Comments 13 civil cases, 233 administrative cases, 3264 criminal cases. The count of inadmissible cases is not available for incoming cases

100. Highest instance courts (Supreme Court): Number of criminal law cases.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the Supreme Court
Total of criminal law cases	3 286	4 145	4 481	2 950	
(1 + 2 + 2)	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[X] NA
(1+2+3)	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
1. Severe criminal cases					
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
2. Misdemeanour and / or minor					
criminal cases	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
3. Other cases					
	[] NA	[] NA	[]NA	[] NA	[] NA
	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP

Comments - If you cannot make a distinction between misdemeanour criminal cases and severe criminal cases (according to the CEPEJ definitions), please indicate the categories of cases reported in the category "serious offences" and cases reported in the category "minor offences". If "Other cases", please specify

4.2.5. Case flow management and timeframes - specific cases

101. Number of litigious divorce cases, employment dismissal cases, insolvency, robbery cases, intentional homicide cases, cases relating to asylum seekers and cases relating to the right of entry and stay for aliens received and processed by first instance courts.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec ref. year
Litigious divorce cases			4 539	
6	[X] NA	[X] NA	[] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Employment dismissal cases			2 117	
F J	[X] NA	[X] NA	[] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Insolvency				
•	[X] NA	[X]NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Robbery case				
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Intentional homicide				
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Cases relating to asylum seekers				
(refugee status under the 1951 Geneva	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Convention)				
Cases relating to the right of entry and				
stay for aliens	[X]NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

Comments As for the number of resolved employment dismissal cases, it dropped significantly in recent years, most probably because of

 \bigcirc

101-1. Could you briefly describe the system in your country dealing with judicial remedies relating to asylum seekers (refugee status under the 1951 Geneva Convention) and the right of entry and stay for aliens:

. NA

102. Average length of proceedings, in days (from the date the application for judicial review is lodged). The average length of proceedings has to be calculated from the date the application for judicial review is lodged to the date the judgment is made, without taking into account the enforcement procedure.

	% of decisions subject to appeal	Average length in 1st instance (in days)	Average length in 2nd instance (in days)	Average length in 3rd instance (in days)	Average total length of the total procedure (in days)	% of cases pending for more than 3 years for all instances
Civil and commercial						
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
litigious cases	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Litigious divorce case		86	284			
C	[X] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Employment dismissal case		80			80	
1 9	[X] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Insolvency						
•	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Robbery case		42	289			
2	[X] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Intentional homicide		127	289			
	[X] NA	[] NA	[] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

Comments The length within one instance is from the formally defined start of the case until the termination of the case at that instance. The average length is calculated over all cases terminated at that instance during the year that we report on.

103. Where appropriate, please indicate the specific procedure regarding divorce cases (litigious and non-litigious):

. There is no specific procedure for divorce cases. However, since March 2009, a "parental plan" is mandatory, i.e., a divorce case with minors involved will not be dealt with in court unless a "parental plan" is established.

104. How is the length of proceedings calculated for the six case categories of question 102? Please give a description of the calculation method.

. The length within one instance is from the formally defined start of the case until the termination of the case at that instance. The average length is calculated over all cases terminated at that instance during the year that we report on.

4.2.6. Case flow management – public prosecution

С

105. Role and powers of the public prosecutor in the criminal procedure (multiple options possible):

- [] to conduct or supervise police investigation
- [] to conduct investigations
- [] when necessary, to request investigation measures from the judge
- [] to charge
- [] to present the case in court
- [] to propose a sentence to the judge
- [] to appeal
- [] to supervise the enforcement procedure
- [] to discontinue a case without needing a decision by a judge (ensure consistency with question 36!)
- [] to end the case by imposing or negotiating a penalty or measure without requiring a judicial decision
- [] other significant powers (please specify):

Comments

106. Does the public prosecutor also have a role in:

- [] civil cases
- [] administrative cases
- [] insolvency cases

Comments - If yes, please specify:

107. Cases processed by the public prosecutor - Total number of first instance criminal cases:

	the reference year	Discontinued during the reference year (see Q108 below)	Concluded by a penalty or a measure imposed or negotiated by the public prosecutor	Cases brought to court
Total number of first instance cases				
processed by the public prosecutor	[] NA [] NAP	[] NA [] NAP	[]NA []NAP	[] NA [] NAP

Comments

107-1. If the guilty plea procedure exists, how many cases were brought to court by the prosecutor through this procedure?

	Number of guilty plea procedures
Total	
	[] NA
	[] NAP
Before the court case	[]NA
	[] NAP
During the court case	
	[] NA
	[] NAP

Comments

108. Total number of cases which were discontinued by the public prosecutor.

	Number of cases
Total number of cases which were discontinued by the public prosecutor	
•	[] NA
(1+2+3+4)	[] NAP
1. Discontinued by the public prosecutor because the offender could not be	
identified	[] NA
	[] NAP
2. Discontinued by the public prosecutor due to the lack of an established	
offence or a specific legal situation	[] NA
	[] NAP
3. Discontinued by the public prosecutor for reasons of opportunity	
	[] NA
	[] NAP
4. Other	
	[] NA
	[] NAP

Comments

109. Do the figures include traffic offence cases?

() Yes

() No

Comments

D2. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 91, 94, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 107, 107-1 and 108.

Sources:

5.Career of judges and public prosecutors

5.1.Recruitment and promotion

5.1.1.Recruitment and promotion of judges

110. How are judges recruited?

- [] mainly through a competitive exam (open competition)
- [] mainly through a recruitment procedure for experienced legal professionals (for example experienced lawyers)
- [X] a combination of both (competitive exam and working experience)
- [] other (please specify):

Comments

111. Authority(ies) responsible for recruitment. Are judges initially/at the beginning of their career recruited and nominated by:

- [] an authority made up of judges only
- [] an authority made up of non-judges only
- [X] an authority made up of judges and non-judges

Comments - Please indicate the name of the authority(ies) involved in the whole procedure of recruitment and nomination of judges. If there are several authorities, please describe their respective roles:

112. Is the same authority (Q111) competent for the promotion of judges?

- () Yes
- (X) No

Comments

113. What is the procedure for the promotion of judges? (multiple answers possible)

- [X] Competitive test / Exam
- [X] Other procedure (interview or other)
- [] No special procedure

Comments - Please specify how the promotion of judges is organised (especially if there is no competition or examination):

113-1. Please indicate the criteria used for the promotion of a judge? (multiple answers possible)

- [X] Years of experience
- [X] Professional skills (and/or qualitative performance)
- [X] Performance (quantitative)
- [X] Assessment results
- [X] Subjective criteria (e.g. integrity, reputation)
- [] Other
- [] No criteria

Comments - Please specify any useful comment regarding the criteria (especially if you have checked the box "performance" or "other"):

5.1.2.Status, recruitment and promotion of prosecutors

115. What is the status of public prosecution services?

- [] statutory independent
- [X] under the authority of the Minister of Justice or another central authority
- [] other (please specify):

Comments - When appropriate, please specify the objective guarantees of this independence (transfer, appointment...).

115-1. Does the law or another regulation prevent specific instructions to prosecute or not, addressed to a public prosecutor?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

116. How are public prosecutors recruited?

- [] mainly through a competitive exam (open competition)
- [] mainly through a recruitment procedure for experienced legal professionals (for example experienced lawyers)

[X] a combination of both (competitive exam and working experience)

[] other (please specify):

Comments

117. Authority(ies) responsible for recruitment. Are public prosecutors initially/at the beginning of their career recruited by:

- [] an authority composed of public prosecutors only
- [] an authority composed of non-public prosecutors only
- [X] an authority composed of public prosecutors and non-public prosecutors

Comments - Please indicate the name of the authority(ies) involved in the whole procedure of recruitment and nomination of public prosecutors. If there are several authorities, please describe their respective roles:

118. Is the same authority (Q.117) formally responsible for the promotion of public prosecutors?

- () Yes
- (X) No, please specify which authority is competent for promoting public prosecutors The board of the Prosecutor General

Comments The board of the Prosecutor General is competent as head of the Prosecution Service. The nomination is done by the King of the Netherlands.

119. What is the procedure for the promotion of prosecutors? (multiple answers possible)

- [] Competitive test / exam
- [X] Other procedure (interview or other)
- [X] No special procedure

Comments - Please, specify the procedure (especially if it is a procedure different from a competitive test or an exam):

119-2. Please indicate the criteria used for the promotion of a prosecutor:

- [X] Years of experience
- [X] Professional skills (and/or qualitative performance)
- [X] Performance (quantitative)
- [X] Assessment results
- [X] Subjective criteria (e.g. integrity, reputation)
- [] Other
- [] No criteria

Comments - Please, specify any useful comment regarding the criteria (especially if you have checked the box "performance" or "other"):

5.1.3.Mandate and retirement of judges and prosecutors

121. Are judges appointed to office for an undetermined period (i.e. "for life" = until the official age of retirement)?

(X) Yes, please indicate the compulsory retirement age:70

() No

Comments - If yes, are there exceptions (e.g. dismissal as a disciplinary sanction)? Please specify:

121-1. Can a judge be transferred to another court without his/her consent:

- [] For disciplinary reasons
- [] For organisational reasons
- [] For other reasons (please specify modalities and safeguards):
- [X] No

Comments

122. Is there a probation period for judges (e.g. before being appointed "for life")? If yes, how long is this period?

() Yes, duration of the probation period (in years):

(X) No

Comments The probation period is before being appointed. During training or while serving as an replacement judge.

123. Are public prosecutors appointed to office for an undetermined period (i.e. "for life" = until the official age of retirement)?

(X) Yes, please indicate the compulsory retirement age:70

() No

Comments - If yes, are there exceptions (e.g. dismissal as a disciplinary sanction)? Please specify: The appointment to office for an "undetermined period" is not equal to an appointment "for life". In the Netherlands public prosecutors are appointed for an undetermined period. But this does not mean that their appointment could never lead to an end. So they are not appointed "for life", as is the case for judges.

Dismissal is possible if a public prosecutor does not fulfill his/her duties properly, is terminally ill or if he/she breaks the law.

124. Is there a probation period for public prosecutors? If yes, how long is this period?

(X) Yes, duration of the probation period (in years):

() No

Comments Probation period is not a fixed amount of time.

125. If the mandate for judges is not for an undetermined period (see question 121), what is the length of the mandate (in years)?

[[]NA [X]NAP

Comments

125-1. Is it renewable?

1

() Yes () No [X] NAP

Comments

126. If the mandate for public prosecutors is not for an undetermined period (see question 123), what is the length of the mandate (in years)?

[] NA [] NA [X] NAP

Comments

126-1. Is it renewable?

() Yes

() No

[X] NAP

Comments

E1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this chapter:

Sources: Law

5.2.Training

5.2.1.Training of judges

127. Types of different trainings offered to judges:

	Compulsory	Optional	No training proposed
Initial training (e.g. attend a judicial school,	(X) Yes	() Yes	() Yes
traineeship in the court)	() No	(X) No	(X) No
General in-service training	(X)Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	() No	(X) No	(X) No
In-service training for specialised judicial	(X)Yes	(X)Yes	() Yes
functions (e.g. judge for economic or	() No	() No	(X) No
administrative issues)			
In-service training for management functions	(X)Yes	(X)Yes	() Yes
of the court (e.g. court president)	() No	() No	(X) No
In-service training for the use of computer	(X)Yes	(X)Yes	() Yes
facilities in courts	() No	() No	(X) No
In-service training on ethics	() Yes	() Yes	(X)Yes
	(X) No	(X) No	() No

128. Frequency of the in-service training of judges:

	Frequency of the judges training
General in-service training	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training for specialised judicial functions (e.g. judge for economic or administrative issues)	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training for management functions of the court (e.g. court president)	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training for the use of computer facilities in courts	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training on ethics	[] Regularly (for example every year) [] Occasional (as needed) [X] No training proposed

Comments - Please indicate any information on the periodicity of the continuous training of judges:

5.2.2.Training of prosecutors

129. Types of different trainings offered to public prosecutors:

	Compulsory	Optional	No training proposed
Initial training	(X)Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	() No	(X) No	(X) No
General in-service training	() Yes	(X)Yes	() Yes
	(X) No	() No	(X) No
In-service training for specialised functions	(X)Yes	(X)Yes	() Yes
(e.g. public prosecutors specialised on	() No	() No	(X) No
organised crime)			
In-service training for management functions	(X)Yes	(X) Yes	() Yes
(e.g. Head of prosecution office, manager)	() No	() No	(X) No
In-service training for the use of computer	(X)Yes	(X)Yes	() Yes
facilities in office	() No	() No	(X) No
In-service training on ethics	(X)Yes	(X)Yes	() Yes
	() No	() No	(X) No

130. Frequency of the in-service training of public prosecutors :

	Frequency of the in-service training
General in-service training	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [X] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training for specialised functions (e.g. public prosecutor specialised on organised crime)	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [X] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training for management functions (e.g. Head of prosecution office, manager)	[] Regularly (for example every year) [X] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training for the use of computer facilities in office	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [X] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training on ethics	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [X] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed

Comments - Please indicate any information on the periodicity of the in-service training of prosecutors:

131. Do you have public training institutions for judges and / or prosecutors?

Continuous training only	Initial and continuous training
•	-

One institution for judges	[]	[]	[]
One institution for prosecutors	[]	[]	[]
One single institution for both judges and prosecutors	[]	[]	[X]

131-0. If yes, what is the budget of such institution(s)?

	Budget of the institution for the reference year, in \in
One institution for judges	
	[] NA
	[X] NAP
One institution for prosecutors	
•	[] NA
	[X] NAP
One single institution for both judges and prosecutors	
	[X] NA
	[] NAP

Comments

131-1. If judges and/or prosecutors have no compulsory initial training in such institutions, please indicate briefly how these judges and/or prosecutors are trained?

. NAP

131-2. Number of in-service training courses (in days) organised by the judicial training institution for judges, prosecutors, non-judge and non-prosecutor staff

	Number of training courses in days organised, without e- learning	Online training courses available during the reference year (e-learning)
Total		
	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP
1. Only for judges		
	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP
2. Only for prosecutors		
	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP
3. Only for other non-judge staff		
	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP

4. Only for other non-prosecutor staff		
	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP
5. Other common training		
	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP

E2. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this chapter:

Sources: Reported for this survey by the Judicial Council and Public Prosecution Office

5.3.Practice of the profession

5.3.1.Salaries and benefits of judges and prosecutors



132. Salaries of judges and public prosecutors on 31 December of the reference year:

	Gross annual salary, in €	Net annual salary, in €	Gross annual salary, in local currency	Net annual salary, in local currency
First instance professional judge at the	76 500		76 500	
beginning of his/her career	[] NA	[X]NA	[]NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
Judge of the Supreme Court or the	138 500		138 500	
Highest Appellate Court (please	[] NA	[X]NA	[] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
indicate the average salary of a judge at				
this level, and not the salary of the				
Court President)				
Public prosecutor at the beginning of	76 500		76 500	
his/her career	[] NA	[X]NA	[]NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[]NAP	[] NAP
Public prosecutor of the Supreme	138 500		138 500	
Court or the Highest Appellate	[] NA	[X]NA	[] NA	[X] NA
Instance (please indicate the average	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
salary of a public prosecutor at this				
level, and not the salary of the Attorney				
General).				

Comments

133. Do judges and public prosecutors have additional benefits?

	Judges	Public prosecutors
Reduced taxation	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No

Special pension	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Housing	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Other financial benefit	() Yes (X) No	(X)Yes ()No

134. If "other financial benefit", please specify:

. Allowance for representation and toga (court uniform)

[] NAP

135. Can judges combine their work with any of the following other functions/activities?

	With remuneration	Without remuneration
Teaching	(X)Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No
Research and publication	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Arbitrator	(X)Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No
Consultant	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Cultural function	(X)Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No
Political function	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Mediator	(X) Yes	(X) Yes
	() No	() No
Other function	(X)Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No

Comments - If rules exist in your country (e.g. authorisation needed to perform these activities), please specify. If "other function", please specify.

137. Can public prosecutors combine their work with any of the following other functions/activities?

	With remuneration	Without remuneration
Teaching	(X)Yes ()No	(X)Yes ()No

Research and publication	(X)Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No
Arbitrator	(X)Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No
Consultant	(X)Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No
Cultural function	(X)Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No
Political function	(X)Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No
Mediator	(X)Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No
Other function	(X) Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No

Comments - If rules exist in your country (e.g. authorisation needed to perform these activities), please specify. If "other function", please specify: It's allowed to combine the work as prosecutor with other activities as long as it does not stand in the way of a good practice of the work as prosecutor.

139. Productivity bonuses: do judges receive bonuses based on the fulfilment of quantitative objectives in relation to the number of resolved cases (e.g. number of cases resolved over a given period of time)?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments - If yes, please specify the conditions and possibly the amounts:

5.3.2 Body/institution of ethics

138. Is there in your country an institution / body giving opinions on ethical questions of the conduct of judges (e.g. involvement in political life, use of social media by judges, etc.)

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

138-1. If yes, how is this institution / body formed

- () only by judges
- () by judges and other legal professionals
- () other, please specify:

Comments

138-2. Are the opinions of this institution / body publicly available?

() Yes

() No

[] NAP

[] NAP

138-3. Is there in your country an institution / body giving opinions on ethical questions of the conduct of prosecutors (e.g. involvement in political life, use of social media by prosecutors, etc.)

(X) Yes

() No

Comments Comment: The Integrity Bureau monitors what happens in the Field of Ethics and Society in general, and to that end is in touch with other bodies of Government, like the Police and Prisons, but also with scientists who work in the field of Ethics and Integrity. The Bureau drafts Guidelines and Directives to be issued by the Board of Prosecutors-General.

138-4. If yes, how is this institution / body formed

- () only by prosecutors
- () by prosecutors and other legal professionals

(X) other, please specify: The Integrity Bureau of the Prosecution Service has –among other powers- an advisory and initiating role on conduct and ethical matters concerning all members of the Prosecution Service (not only prosecutors). It advises the Board of Prosecutors-General to issue rules on these matters and –when necessary- to adapt the Code of Conduct for the Prosecution Service.

Comments The Integrity Bureau of the Prosecution Service has –among other powers- an advisory and initiating role on conduct and ethical matters concerning all members of the Prosecution Service (not only prosecutors). It advises the Board of Prosecutors-General to issue rules on these matters and –when necessary- to adapt the Code of Conduct for the Prosecution Service.

138-5. Are the opinions of this institution / body publicly available?

() Yes

(X) No

[] NAP

Comments - Please describe the work of this institution / body, the frequency of opinions, etc. The Code of Conduct for the Prosecution Service is publicly available, as well as the Code of Conduct for Civil Servants, which applies to all member of Public Prosecution Service who are not Public Prosecutors. The advices of the Bureau are not publicly available as long as they are not yet laid down in Guidelines.

[] NAP

5.4.Disciplinary procedures

5.4.1.Authorities responsible for disciplinary procedures and sanctions

140. Who is authorised to initiate disciplinary proceedings against judges (multiple options possible)?

- [] Court users
- [X] Relevant Court or hierarchical superior
- [] High Court / Supreme Court
- [] High Judicial Council
- [] Disciplinary court or body
- [] Ombudsman
- [] Parliament

[] Executive power (please specify):

- [] Other (please specify):
- [] This is not possible

Comments

141. Who is authorised to initiate disciplinary proceedings against public prosecutors (multiple options possible):

[] Citizens

[X] Head of the organisational unit or hierarchical superior public prosecutor

[X] Prosecutor General /State public prosecutor

- [] Public prosecutorial Council (High Judicial Council)
- [] Disciplinary court or body
- [] Ombudsman
- [] Professional body
- [] Executive power (please specify):
- [] Other (please specify):
- [] This is not possible

Comments

142. Which authority has disciplinary power over judges? (multiple options possible)

- [X] Court
- [X] Higher Court / Supreme Court
- [] High Judicial Council
- [] Disciplinary court or body
- [] Ombudsman
- [] Parliament
- [] Executive power (please specify):
- [] Other (please specify):

Comments

143. Which authority has disciplinary power over public prosecutors? (multiple options possible):

- [] Supreme Court
- [X] Head of the organisational unit or hierarchical superior
- [X] Prosecutor General /State public prosecutor
- [] Public prosecutorial Council (High Judicial Council)
- [] Disciplinary court or body
- [] Ombudsman
- [] Professional body
- [] Executive power (please specify):

[] Other (please specify):

Comments

5.4.2.Number of disciplinary procedures and sanctions

144. Number of disciplinary proceedings initiated during the reference year against judges and public prosecutors. (If a disciplinary proceeding is undertaken because of several reasons, please count the proceedings only once and for the main reason.)

	Judges	Prosecutors	
Total number (1+2+3+4)	3	1	
	[] NA	[] NA	
	[] NAP	[] NAP	
1. Breach of professional ethics		0	
L	[X] NA	[] NA	
	[] NAP	[] NAP	
2. Professional inadequacy		0	
	[X] NA	[] NA	
	[] NAP	[] NAP	
3. Criminal offence		0	
	[X] NA	[] NA	
	[] NAP	[] NAP	
4. Other		1	
	[X] NA	[] NA	
	[] NAP	[] NAP	

Comments - If "other", please specify: private use of a company car

145. Number of sanctions pronounced during the reference year against judges and public prosecutors:

	Judges	Prosecutors	
Total number (total 1 to 10)	3	1	
	[] NA [] NAP	[] NA [] NAP	
1. Reprimand	2	1	
	[] NA [] NAP	[] NA [] NAP	
2. Suspension	0	0	
	[] NA [] NAP	[] NA [] NAP	
3. Withdrawal from cases	0	0	
	[]NA []NAP	[] NA [] NAP	
4. Fine	0 [] NA	0 []NA	
	[] NAP	[]NAP	
5. Temporary reduction of salary	0 [] NA	0 [] NA	
	[] NAP	[] NAP	

6. Position downgrade	0	0
	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP
7. Transfer to another geographical (court) location	0	0
	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP
8. Resignation	1	0
	[] NA	[]NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP
9. Other	0	0
	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP
10. Dismissal	0	0
	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify. If a significant difference exists between the number of disciplinary proceedings and the number of sanctions, please indicate the reasons.

E3. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 144 and 145:

Sources: Judicial Council - Annual Report 2018; https://www.om.nl/onderwerpen/integriteit/@105415/jaaroverzicht-2018/

6.Lawyers

6.1.Profession of lawyer

6.1.1.Status of the profession of lawyers

146. Total number of lawyers practising in your country:

	Total	Male	Female
Number of lawyers	17 784 []NA	9 899 [] NA	7 885

Comments

147. Does this figure include "legal advisors" who cannot represent their clients in court (for example, some solicitors or in-house counsellors)?

Yes ()

No (X)

Comments

148. Number of legal advisors who cannot represent their clients in court:

```
[
[] NA
```

]

Comments

149. Do lawyers have a monopoly on legal representation in (multiple options are possible):

	First instance	Second instance	Highest instance court (Supreme Court)
Civil cases	[X]	[X]	[X]
Dismissal cases	[]	[]	[]
Criminal cases – Defendant	[]	[]	[]
Criminal cases – Victim	[]	[]	[]
Administrative cases	[]	[X]	[X]

[] NAP

Comments - Please indicate any useful clarifications regarding the content of lawyers' monopoly: There is no general monopoly for civil cases in 1st instance. There is a monopoly however for a few specific types of cases, such as litigious divorce cases and commercial cases with a value > 25.000 euro

Defendants in criminal cases are never obliged to hire a lawyer. In dismissal cases, 2nd or 3rd instance does not exist.

149-0. If there is no monopoly, please specify the organisations or persons that may represent a client in court:

	First instance	Second instance	Highest instance court (Supreme Court)
Civil society organisation	(X) Yes	(X) Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No	()No
Family member	(X) Yes	(X) Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No	()No
Self-representation	(X) Yes	(X) Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No	()No
Trade union	(X) Yes	(X) Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No	()No
Other	(X) Yes	(X) Yes	(X)Yes
	() No	() No	()No

Comments - If "other", please specify. In addition, please specify for the categories mentioned the types of cases concerned by this/these representation(s): If there is no monopoly, almost everybody (individual or legal entity) is allowed to represent a party in Court.

149-1. In addition to the functions of legal representation and legal advice, can a lawyer exercise other activities?

- [] Notarial activity
- [X] Arbitration / mediation
- [X] Proxy / representation
- [] Property manager

[] Real estate agent

[X] Other law activities (please specify):Lawyers can teach, write or engage in political activity. In general, much of the work of lawyers in drafting contacts

Comments

149-2. What are the statuses for exercising the profession of lawyer?

[X] Self-employed lawyer

[X] Staff lawyer

[X] In-house lawyer

Comments

150. Is the lawyer profession organised through:

[X] a national bar association

[X] a regional bar association

[] a local bar association

Comments The Bar is organized on national and regional level. The regions are the same as those covered by the 11 general jurisdiction 1st instance courts. The mixing of 'local'/'regional' might stem from the general term used in Dutch for the regional organizations: they are called 'locale orde' (= 'local bar'). Given the size of the territories, the term 'regional' seems more appropriate than 'local'.

151. Is there a specific initial training and/or exam to enter the profession of lawyer?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If not, please indicate if there are other specific requirements as regards diplomas or university degrees:

152. Is there a mandatory general in-service professional training system for lawyers?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

153. Is the specialisation in some legal fields linked to specific training, levels of qualification, specific diploma or specific authorisations?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

F1. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 146 and 148:

Sources: Dutch Bar Association, annual report

6.1.2.Practicing the profession

154. Can court users establish easily what the lawyers' fees will be (i.e. a prior information on the foreseeable amount of fees)?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments In general, lawyers are paid a hourly fee. It is not always easy to establish the amount of work that a Court case will involve.

155. Are lawyers' fees freely negotiated?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

156. Do laws or bar association standards provide any rules on lawyers' fees (including those freely negotiated)?

[] Yes, laws provide rules

- [X] Yes, standards of the bar association provide rules
- [] No, neither laws nor bar association standards provide rules

Comments

6.1.3.Quality standards and disciplinary procedures

157. Have quality standards been determined for lawyers?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, what are the quality criteria used?

158. If yes, who is responsible for formulating these quality standards:

- [X] the bar association
- [] the Parliament
- [] other (please specify):

Comments

159. Is it possible to file a complaint about:

[X] the performance of lawyers

[X] the amount of fees

Comments - Please specify:

160. Which authority is responsible for disciplinary procedures?

[] a judge

[] Ministry of Justice

[X] a professional authority

[] other (please specify):

161. Disciplinary proceedings initiated against lawyers. (If a disciplinary proceeding is undertaken because of several reasons, please count the proceedings only once and for the main reason.)

	Number of disciplinary proceedings
Total number of disciplinary proceedings initiated $(1 + 2 + 3 + 4)$	1 004
Total humber of disciplinary proceedings initiated (1 + 2 + 5 + 4)	[] NA
	[] NAP
1. Breach of professional ethics	
	[X] NA
	[] NAP
2. Professional inadequacy	
	[X] NA
	[] NAP
3. Criminal offence	
	[X] NA
	[] NAP
4. Other	
	[X] NA
	[] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify: This is the number of procedures in 1st instance. There also were 369 appeals. Since the two categories overlap, only the 1st instance procedures are in the table.

162. Sanctions pronounced against lawyers.

	Number of sanctions
Total number of sanctions $(1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5)$	224
	[] NA
	[] NAP
1. Reprimand	42
•	[] NA
	[] NAP
2. Suspension	26
	[] NA
	[]NAP
3. Withdrawal from cases	
	[] NA
	[X] NAP
4. Fine	2
	[] NA
	[] NAP
5. Other	154
	[]NA
	[] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify. If a significant difference between the number of disciplinary proceedings and the number of sanctions exists, please indicate the reasons. Other: 113 'warnings', 23 conditional suspensions. A total of 18 were dismissed from the Bar (they can no longer work as a lawyer). These numbers are the sanctions in 1st instance, except for the dismissals: those are all final dismissals in 2018. Please note that some of the sanctions in 1st instance may be revised in appeal.

7. Court related mediation and other alternative Dispute Resolution

7.1 Court related mediation

7.1.1 Details on court related mediation

163. Does the judicial system provide for court-related mediation procedures?

- (X)Yes
- () No

Comments

163-1. In some fields, does the judicial system provide for mandatory mediation with a mediator?

- [] Before/instead of going to court
- [] Ordered by the court, the judge, the public prosecutor or a public authority in the course of a judicial proceeding
- [X] No mandatory mediation

Comments - If there is mandatory mediation, please specify which fields are concerned:

163-2. In some fields, does the legal system provide for mandatory informative sessions with a mediator?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments - If there are mandatory informative sessions, please specify which fields are concerned:

164. Please specify, by type of cases, who provides court-related mediation services:

	Private mediator	Public authority (other than the court)	Judge	Public prosecutor
Civil and commercial cases	(X)Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	() No	(X) No	(X)No	(X)No
Family cases	(X)Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	() No	(X)No	(X)No	(X)No
Administrative cases	(X)Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	() No	(X)No	(X)No	(X)No
Labour cases including employment	(X)Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
dismissals	() No	(X)No	(X)No	(X)No
Criminal cases	(X)Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	() No	(X)No	(X)No	(X)No
Consumer cases	(X)Yes	() Yes	() Yes	() Yes
	() No	(X)No	(X)No	(X)No

Comments The first opening for mediation in criminal cases was in 2013 (experimental). In 2017 the annual number of cases came close

to 1.000, and in 2018 a program to promote mediation in criminal cases was started, and extra money invested.

165. Is there a possibility to receive legal aid for court-related mediation or receive these services free of charge?

(X)Yes

() No

[] NAP

Comments - If yes, please specify (only one or both options)::

166. Number of accredited or registered mediators for court-related mediation:

	Total	Males	Females
Number of mediators	1 002 [] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

Comments In campaigns to promote mediation, many people have been trained to become a mediator, and were accredited. Therefore, we observe that there are more people that want to be professional mediators than there is demand for the mediation services. The decrease of the number of mediators was discussed in the news media. The explanation given for the decrease was that the fee for being registered went up substantially. Many mediators who did hardly have cases to mediate, gave up.

167. Number of court-related mediations:

	Number of cases for which the parties agreed to start mediation	Number of finished court-related mediations	Number of cases in which there is a settlement agreement
Total $(1+2+3+4+5+6)$	3 686	2 509	1 631
	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
1. Civil and commercial cases			
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
2. Family cases			
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
3. Administrative cases			
	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
4. Labour cases including employment			
dismissal cases	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
5. Criminal cases			
	[X] NA	[X]NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP
6. Consumer cases			
	[X] NA	[X]NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

Comments - Please indicate the source: Mediation has been promoted for many years in the Netherlands. In that sense nothing special happened in 2017/2018. In 2018 a new program started to promote mediation in criminal cases. The rise of the number of cases for which the parties agreed to start mediation may be explained by the implementation of this program. The data are produced by the Judicial council and the Courts

168. Do the following alternative dispute resolution (ADR) methods exist in your country?

[X] Mediation other than court-related mediation

[X] Arbitration

[] Conciliation (if different from mediation)

[X] Other ADR (please specify):Specialized panels. Such panels have been installed for (among others) Rent Cases, Financial Services

Comments

G1. Please indicate the source for answering question 166:

Source: Legal Aid Council, infographic in Key Figures, 2018.

8. Enforcement of court decisions

8.1. Execution of decisions in civil matters

8.1.1.Functioning

169. Do you have enforcement agents in your judicial system?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

170. Number of enforcement agents

	Total	Male	Female
Number of enforcement agents	760	553	207
	[]NA	[]NA	[]NA

Comments The numbers include 'toegevoegde deurwaarders'; bailiffs that have not yet gained full professional status, and perform the work of a bailiff under supervision (and final responsibility) of a bailiff with full professional status. People can perform the work for many years without the full professional status.

171. Are enforcement agents (multiple options are possible):

[] judges

[X] bailiffs practising as private professionals under the authority (control) of public authorities

- [] bailiffs working in a public institution
- [] other

Comments - Please specify their status and powers:

171-1. Do enforcement agents have the monopoly in exercising their profession?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - Please indicate any useful clarifications regarding the content of the enforcement agents' monopoly or on the opposite regarding the competition they have to deal with:

171-2. Can the enforcement agent carry out the following civil enforcement proceedings:

	Option
Seizure of movable tangible properties	 (X) Yes with monopoly () Yes without monopoly () No [] NAP
Seizure of immovable properties	 (X) Yes with monopoly () Yes without monopoly () No [] NAP
Seizure from a third party of the debtor claims regarding a sum of money	 (X) Yes with monopoly () Yes without monopoly () No [] NAP
Seizure of remunerations	 (X) Yes with monopoly () Yes without monopoly () No [] NAP
Seizure of motorised vehicles	 (X) Yes with monopoly () Yes without monopoly () No [] NAP
Eviction measures	 (X) Yes with monopoly () Yes without monopoly () No [] NAP
Enforced sale by public tender of seized properties	 (X) Yes with monopoly () Yes without monopoly () No [] NAP
Other	 () Yes with monopoly () Yes without monopoly (X) No [] NAP

Comments It should be noted that some enforcement actions can be taken by other bodies. This concerns, for example, the collection of traffic fines. The public agency that collects these fines can seize money from a bank account without having to hire a bailiff.

171-3. Apart of the enforcement of court decisions, what are the other activities that can be carried out by enforcement agents?

[X] Service of judicial and extrajudicial documents

[X] Debt recovery

[X] Voluntary sale of moveable or immoveable property at public auction

[X] Seizure of goods

- [X] Recording and reporting of evidence
- [X] Court hearings service
- [X] Provision of legal advice
- [X] Bankruptcy procedures
- [X] Performing tasks assigned by judges
- [X] Representing parties in courts
- [X] Drawing up private deeds and documents
- [X] Building manager
- [] Other

Comments

172. Is there a specific initial training or exam to become an enforcement agent?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

172-1. Is there a system of mandatory general continuous training for enforcement agents?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

173. Is the profession of enforcement agents organised by (the answer NAP means that the profession is not organised):

[X] a national body

- [] a regional body
- [] a local body

[] NAP

Comments

174. Are enforcement fees easily established and transparent for court users?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments Their are fixed prices for some of the work that bailiffs do. This does not cover all activities they may do. Most of the work of bailiffs have large order contracts with companies, for a negociated price. This means that in most cases, the price is transparent. For individuals with a single case, prices are less predictable.

175. Are enforcement fees freely negotiated?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

176. Do laws provide any rules on enforcement fees (including those freely negotiated)?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

H0. Please indicate the sources for answering question 170

Source: KVGB, annual report

8.1.2.Efficiency of enforcement services

177. Is there a body entrusted with supervising and monitoring the enforcement agents' activity?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

178. Which authority is responsible for supervising and monitoring enforcement agents?

[X] professional body

- [] judge
- [] Ministry of Justice
- [] public prosecutor
- [] other (please specify):

Comments

179. Have quality standards been determined for enforcement agents?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, what are the quality criteria used?

180. If yes, who is responsible for establishing these quality standards?

[X] professional body

[] judge

- [] Ministry of Justice
- [] other (please specify):

Comments

181. Is there a specific mechanism for executing court decisions rendered against public authorities, including supervising such execution?

() Yes

Comments - If yes, please specify:

182. Is there a system for monitoring how the enforcement procedure is conducted by the enforcement agent?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

183. What are the main complaints made by users concerning the enforcement procedure? Please indicate a maximum of 3.

	[] no execution	at	all
--	---	----------------	----	-----

- [] non execution of court decisions against public authorities
- [] lack of information
- [] excessive length
- [] unlawful practices
- [] insufficient supervision
- [] excessive cost
- [] other (please specify):

Comments NA

184. Has your country prepared or established concrete measures to change the situation concerning the enforcement of court decisions – in particular regarding decisions against public authorities?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

185. Is there a system measuring the length of enforcement procedures:

	Existence of the system
for civil cases	() Yes (X) No
for administrative cases	() Yes (X) No

Comments

186. Regarding a decision on debt collection, please estimate the average timeframe to notify the decision to the parties who live in the city where the court sits (one option only):

- () between 1 and 5 days
- () between 6 and 10 days

() between 11 and 30 days

Comments

187. Number of disciplinary proceedings initiated against enforcement agents. (If a disciplinary proceeding is undertaken because of several reasons, please count the proceedings only once and for the main reason.)

	Number of disciplinary proceedings initiated
Total number of initiated disciplinary proceedings (1+2+3+4)	660
	[] NA
	[] NAP
1. For breach of professional ethics	
•	[X] NA
	[] NAP
2. For professional inadequacy	
	[X] NA
	[] NAP
3. For criminal offence	
	[X] NA
	[] NAP
4. Other	[X] NA
	[] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify:

188. Number of sanctions pronounced against enforcement agents:

	Number of sanctions pronounced
Total number of sanctions (1+2+3+4+5)	87
	[]NA []NAP
1. Reprimand	71
	[]NA []NAP
2. Suspension	2
	[]NA []NAP
3. Withdrawal from cases	
	[] NA [X] NAP
4. Fine	11
	[]NA []NAP
5. Other	3
	[]NA []NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify. If a significant difference between the number of disciplinary proceedings and the number of

sanctions exists, please indicate the reasons: Other: 3 were removed from office, losing their professional status. correction of older data. Year 2016 'withdrawel from case' = NAP; fine = 4. Year 2014: 1 'other' (removal from office)

H1. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 186, 187 and 188:

Source: Court of Amsterdam, Kamer voor Gerechtsdeurwaarders (=The authority in handling disciplinary cases against bailiffs)

8.2. Execution of decisions in criminal matters

8.2.1. Functioning of execution in criminal matters

189. Which authority is in charge of the enforcement of judgments in criminal matters? (multiple options possible)

- [] Judge
- [] Public prosecutor
- [] Prison and Probation Services
- [] Other authority (please specify):

Comments - Please specify his/her functions and duties (e.g. initiative or monitoring functions).

190. Are the effective recovery rates of fines decided by a criminal court evaluated by studies?

- () Yes
- () No

Comments

191. If yes, what is the recovery rate?

- () 80-100%
- () 50-79%
- () less than 50%

Comments - Please indicate the source for answering this question:

9.Notaries

9.1. Profession of notary

9.1.1.Number and status of notaries

192. Number and type of notaries in your country. If you do not have notaries skip to question 197.

Total	Male	Female

TOTAL (1+2+3+4)	3 291	1 595	1 696	
	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	
1. Private professionals (without control from	m			
- ·	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
public authorities)	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	
2. Professionals appointed by the State	3 291	1 595	1 696	
	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP	
3. Public officials				
	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	
4. Other				
	[] NA	[] NA	[] NA	
	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	[X] NAP	

Comments - If "other", please specify the status: The count of notaries includes so-called 'candidates'. They do not hold the full professional status and a notary with full professional status remains responsible for the work of a candidate. People can remain 'candidate' for many years, or even a life time.

Notaries can work in private enterprises, but are formally appointed by the King, and their profession is regulated by Law.

192-1. What are the access conditions to the profession of notary (multiple options possible):

- [X] diploma
- [X] professional experience/professional training
- [] exam
- [] appointment procedure by the State
- [] other (please specify):

Comments Professional experience/training: see previous comment regarding 'candidates'. Notaries usually have gained years of professional experience before they receive full professional status.

192-2. Are notaries appointed to office for an undetermined period (i.e. "for life" = until the official age of retirement)?

- [X] yes, please indicate the age of retirement:70
- [] no, please specify the duration of the appointment:

Comments - are there exceptions (e.g. dismissal as a disciplinary sanction)? Please specify:

194. What kind of activities do notaries perform (multiple options possible):

- [X] Within some civil procedures (for example inheritance or inheritance distribution; divorce by mutual consent)
- [X] Authentication
- [X] Certification of signatures
- [X] Legality control of documents submitted by the parties
- [] Mediation
- [] Taking of oaths
- [] Other, for example collect taxes, keep registers etc. (please specify):

Comments

194-1. Do notaries have the exclusive rights when exercising their profession:

[X] Within some civil procedures (for example inheritance or inheritance distribution; divorce by mutual consent)

[X] Authentication

- [] Certification of signatures
- [] Legality control of documents submitted by the parties
- [] Mediation
- [] Taking of oaths

[X] Other, for example collect taxes, keep registers etc. (please specify):exclusive rights regarding wills, the founding of legal entities and the transfer of ownership of real eastate

Comments - Please indicate any useful clarifications regarding the content of the notaries' exclusive rights or on the opposite regarding the competition they have to deal with:

194-2. In which areas of law do notaries perform their activities (multiple options possible)?

- [X] Real estate transaction
- [X] Family law
- [X] Succession law
- [X] Company law
- [X] Legality control of gambling activities
- [] Other

Comments

194-3. Do notaries use specialised digital systems in their activity?

- [X] In establishing authentic instruments
- [X] In recording authentic instruments (archives)
- [] Other activity (please cpecify):

Comments There is a digital recording system of acts (digital repertorium). There is a digital system for ownership of real estate, in cooperation with the National land/estate registry ('Kadaster') and banks.

195. Is there an authority entrusted with supervising and monitoring the notaries' work?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

196. If yes, which authority is responsible for supervising and monitoring notaries (multiple options possible)?

[X] professional body

[X] court

- [] Ministry of Justice
- [] public prosecutor
- [] other (please specify):

Comments Surveillance of the profession is done by partly by the profession itself, and by an external body (BFT; it's legal status is that of an indepedent administrative body). The Ministry of Justice has a responsibility for regarding the availability of notaries, but it does not do the monitoring.

196-1. Is there a system of general continuous training for all notaries?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

I1. Please indicate the sources for answering question 192:

Sources: KNB (professional organization of Notaries)

10.Court interpreters

10.1. Details on profession of court interpreter

10.1.1.Status of court interpreters

197. Is the title of court interpreters protected?

() Yes

() No

Comments

198. Is the function of court interpreters regulated by legal norms?

() Yes

() No

Comments

199. Number of accredited or registered court interpreters:

[[]NA []NAP

1

Comments

200. Are there binding provisions regarding the quality of court interpretation within judicial proceedings?

() Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, please specify (e.g. having passed a specific exam):

()

201. Are the courts responsible for selecting court interpreters?

- [] Yes, for recruitment and/or appointment for a specific term of office
- [] Yes, for recruitment and/or appointment on an ad hoc basis, according to the specific needs of given proceedings
- [] No, please specify which authority selects court interpreters

Comments

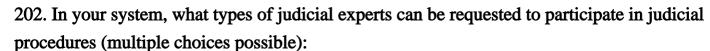
J1. Please indicate the sources for answering question 199

Sources:

11.Judicial experts

11.1.Profession of judicial expert

11.1.1.Status of judicial experts



[X] experts who are requested by the parties to bring their expertise to support their argumentation,

[X] experts appointed by a court to put their scientific and technical knowledge on issues of fact at the court's disposal,

[X] "legal experts" who might be consulted by the judge on specific legal issues or requested to support the judge in preparing the judicial work (but do not take part in the decision).

[] Other (please specify):

Comments

202-1. Are there lists or databases of registered judicial experts?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments - Please indicate any useful comment regarding these lists or databases of experts, if they do exist (e.g. : Does the expert take an oath? How is his/her skill evaluated? By whom?): An official list of registered experts (Netherlands Register of Court Experts – NRGD) exists for criminal law cases. In juvenile law cases and some family law cases a forensic framework for juveniles is applicable for the nomiation of behavioural scientists.

202-2. Who is responsible for registering judicial experts?

[X] Ministry of justice

- [] Courts
- [] Independent body (association of judicial experts)
- [] Other

Comments The responsibility of the Ministry is only for the official list of experts for criminal law procedures. There is an indepedent body 'Het College NRGD' that maintains the list (art. 6 Besluit register deskundige in strafzaken). Members are appointed by the Minister of Justice (art. 8).

202-3. Is the registration of judicial experts limited in time?

(X) Yes, for how long5 years

() No

Comments renewed registration after 5 years is possible

203. Is the title of judicial experts protected?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If appropriate, please explain the meaning of this protection: For Criminal Law Cases. Only NRGD-registered experts are allowed to call themselves registered experts in criminal law cases.

203-1. Does the judicial expert have an obligation of training?

	Obligation of training
Initial training	() Yes (X) No
Continuous training	() Yes (X) No

Comments

203-2. If yes, does this training concern:

- [] judicial proceedings
- [] the profession of expert
- [] other

Comments

204. Is the function of judicial experts regulated by legal norms?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

204-1. On the occasion of a task entrusted to him/her, does the judicial expert have to report any potential conflicts of interest?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments Yes, see the Code of Conduct NRGD (https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0037418/2016-01-01)

205. Number of accredited or registered judicial experts:

Total	Male	Female

Number of experts			
-	[X] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA
	[] NAP	[] NAP	[] NAP

Comments

205-1. Who sets the expert remuneration?

- Remuneration is set by law.

206. Are there binding provisions regarding the exercise of the function of judicial expert within judicial proceedings?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, please specify, in particular the given time to provide a technical report to the judge: There are binding provisions in the Dutch Criminal Law for the judicial experts concerning professionalism, carefulness (precision), integrity, impartiality and independence. Besides, experts are bound by the duty to know the criminal proceedings. The time given to expert to produce the technical report varies depending on the nature of the commission. The commissioner and the expert agree upon the terms related to the period of time.

The Expert in criminal cases Code (Wet deskundige in strafzaken) and the Register expert in criminal cases Decree (Besluit register deskundige in strafzaken) in combination with the Code of conduct NRGD are applicable in criminal law cases.

206-1. Number of cases where expert opinion was ordered by a judge or requested by the parties

	Number of cases
Total (1+2+3+4)	
	[X] NA
	[] NAP
1. Civil and commercial litigious cases	
	[X] NA
	[] NAP
2.Administrative cases	
	[X] NA
	[] NAP
3.Criminal cases	
5.Criminal cases	[X] NA
	[] NAP
4 Other eases	
4.Other cases	[X] NA

Comments

207. Are the courts responsible for selecting judicial experts?

[] Yes, for recruitment and/or appointment for a specific term of office

[X] Yes, for recruitment and/or appointment on an ad hoc basis, according to the specific needs of given proceedings

[] No, please specify which authority selects judicial experts

Comments Courts and prosecutors are responsible for the appointment of experts. In criminal cases, the recruitment and selection are carried out by professional associations of judicial experts (Netherlands Register of Court Experts – NRGD).

207-1. Does the judge control the progress of the expertise?

(X)Yes

() No

Comments

K1. Please indicate the sources for answering question 205

Sources: Besluit tarieven in strafzaken (https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0015481/2019-01-01)

12.Reforms in judiciary

12.1.Foreseen reforms

12.1.1.Reforms

208. Can you provide information on the current debate in your country regarding the functioning of justice? Are there foreseen reforms? Please inform whether these reforms are under preparation or have only been envisaged at this stage. Have innovative projects been implemented? If possible, please observe the following categories:

1. (Comprehensive) reform plans No major changes

2. Budget No major changes

3. Courts and public prosecution services (e.g. powers and organisation, structural changes - e.g. reduction of the number of courts -, management and working methods, information technologies, backlogs and efficiency, court fees, renovations and construction of new buildings) No major changes

3.1. Access to justice and legal aid The Minister for Legal Protection announced a major reform of the legal aid system. Main elements are the provision of better information to persons seeking justice, triage at an early stage, and the development of multidisciplinary 'legal aid packages' ('rechtshulppakketten') for legal issues arising from major life events. The reform is to be

implemented step by step through pilots, ultimately resulting in a legislative proposal for a new legal aid system.

4. High Judicial Council No major changes

5. Legal professionals (judges, public prosecutors, lawyers, notaries, enforcement agents, etc.): organisation, education and training, etc. No major changes

6. Reforms regarding civil, criminal and administrative laws, international conventions and cooperation activities Civil law

•A public consultation took place regarding legislation enabling the Judiciary to temporarily set aside specific provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure within the context of experiments with innovative procedures with a view to enhance simple, fast, effective and de-escalating procedures.

Legislation was adopted with a view to the establishment of the Netherlands Commercial Court (NCC), an English-language chamber at the Amsterdam District Court and the Amsterdam Court of Appeal specialised in the resolution of international business disputes.
A consultation took place regarding draft legislation with a view to modernising and simplifying the rules of evidence in civil law procedures.

Family law

The Divorce without Damage Program (Scheiden zonder schade) aimed at reducing the negative impact of divorce on children and supporting parents, children and professionals involved in a divorce was launched by the Ministry of Justice and Security and the Ministry of Social Affairs. Criminal law

Various consultations took place regarding a major reform of the Dutch Code of Criminal Procedure, with a view to update, modernize and clarify the Code, which has existed since 1926. There have been a lot of changes in technology and society since 1926 and there are new types and methods of crime that did not even exist then. The revised Code should improve investigations, prosecution and trials, be easier to use, be easier for people to understand, improve the way justice is administered by the courts, improve the performance of the criminal justice system and be independent of technology. This means it won't have to be constantly updated to cover new technological advances.

Outside bodies - including the Dutch Council for the Judiciary - have been involved from the very beginning (the pre-consultation stage) and have taken part in expert meetings, working visits, national conferences and working groups assessing the substance of the proposals and their effects, including the financial impact.

Administrative law

Various consultations took place regarding major reforms of environmental legislation.

7. Enforcement of court decisions A public consultation took place regarding changes in the legislation pertaining to seizure proceedings and the enforcement of court decisions in civil law proceedings.

8. Mediation and other ADR The Minister for Legal Protection announced structural financing of mediation in criminal cases.

9. Fight against crime No major changes

9.1. Prison system Experiments with low-security-level small-scale housing units (Kleinschalige Voorziening – KV) for under age detainees were conducted in various cities. The small scale setting enables under age detainees to stay in contact with their parents and keep up with their schoolwork.

9.2 Child friendly justice An increasing number of judgments are being drafted in a child-friendly manner with a view to encourage children to read judgments themselves and promote a better understanding of judgments impacting children's lives.

9.3. Violence against partners A pilot is being conducted with combined criminal and family law hearings in domestic violence cases at the district court of Rotterdam.

10. New information and communication technologies The Council for the Judiciary announced that pilots with digital proceedings with mandatory legal representation in civil law cases in two district courts will not be implemented nationally as this would demand too many financial resources and too much time. It also announced a reset of the digitization of the judiciary focused on improving digital access (instead of automation of judicial procedures), and a more incremental, step-by-step implementation of the digitization within the Judiciary.

11. Other MER

The Dutch Council for the Judiciary started an initiative aimed at making the administration of justice more effective for court users and the society as a whole: Maatschappelijk Effectieve Rechtspraak (MER), 'Effective judging for society'. An important principle of the program is that courts should be accessible in all cases that are relevant to the people and barriers to access the court should be taken away as much as possible. A substantial group of people experience serious barriers in presenting their case to the court. This group views court procedures as too complex, too lengthy and too expensive (due to court registry fees and lawyer's fees). In addition, a judicial decision means losing control over the outcome and does not always address the underlying problem. At this moment pilot projects are being executed in order to improve access to justice. The projects have several characteristics in common. Procedures are: informal, fast, inexpensive and solution oriented.

The pilots projects will be evaluated after which it will be decided if the chosen practices can be implemented on a larger scale. Debts The Judiciary is concerned about the large group of citizens who find it difficult to sustain in our complex society. When it comes to debt issues, the judges are frustrated that a court ruling usually does not solve the problem (because of the fine the person gets more debts). The Judiciary wants to change that. In 2017 a working group of district court judges started to see how the Judiciary can contribute to solving the often distressing problems of people with debts; a growing social problem. They presented their opinion in February 2019 'Debts and the Judiciary'. Motivated by the this opinion many initiatives have been started within the Judiciary that tackle the debt problem in collaboration with municipalities and other organizations.