

Questions and Answers

FY 2022 Census of State Courts (CSC) Solicitation

Question: Can you share an estimated size of the most recent State Court Organization (SCO) frame and/or an estimated size of the to-be-created frame once all eligible courts are accounted for?

Answer: The 2011 SCO project had a frame that consisted of 56 court systems, but the units surveyed depended upon the information being examined. Some of the units surveyed were at the state level, while others were at the trial or appellate jurisdictional levels. At the state level, 56 units were surveyed (50 states, DC, and five U.S. territories). When the units examined were at the appellate jurisdictional level, a total of 58 courts of last resort and 92 intermediate appellate courts were surveyed. When the units being surveyed were at the trial court level, 77 general jurisdiction trial courts and 127 limited jurisdiction trial courts were included.

Question: Is there an expectation to include U.S. territories in the frame?

Answer: Yes, the 2011 SCO included five U.S territories: Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. CSC will also include these territories.

Question: Can the 2011 SCO survey instrument(s) be shared to provide an idea of the complexity and length of the prior instrument?

Answer: Yes, please click [here](#) for the 2011 survey instrument. Additionally, the [codebook](#) for the archived data provides a reliable indication of what was collected.

Question: Is there a required response rate for the survey data collection?

Answer: There is no required response rate outlined in the solicitation, but BJS needs a sufficient number of responses to produce national estimates. Typical methods of weighting are unlikely to work well, given the small frame size.