

**North Carolina State Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant
Needs Assessment Questions for 4.5 Other Community Level Data**

Please speak with you District Court District Attorney or Assistant District Attorney to gain an understanding of the approach the court takes to prosecuting those arrested for DWI and for underage drinking and driving.

1. Approximately how many DWI cases are adjudicated (tried) each month in this county at the district court level?
2. How many are adjudicated at the Superior Court Level.
3. Are there any bench directives used to guide the adjudication process? If yes, can you briefly describe?
4. How does the court accommodate the law enforcement officers so that a case is not dismissed because the officer is not present?
5. Does the court permit pleading to a lesser offense?
 - a. How often is this done? Does this favor specific groups?
6. Are the penalties imposed more lenient than those sentencing guidelines provided by the Administrative Offices of the Courts?
7. Are the most severe penalties ever imposed? If yes, please describe the circumstances.
8. Are there variations in the sentencing behaviors of your judges? If yes, please explain.
9. Does the county jail have facilities that can accommodate women?
10. Is there a military installation in this county? If yes, ask how the courts work with the installation in dealing with military personnel arrested for DWI.
11. How are cases involving Hispanics handled?
 - a. Probe for information on language barriers, immigration issues, etc?
12. How does the court handle cases involving minors arrested for driving with alcohol?
13. Can the DA provide insight into factors in the community that might affect alcohol-related driving?
14. Are there other issues that impact adjudication of DWI cases in your county?