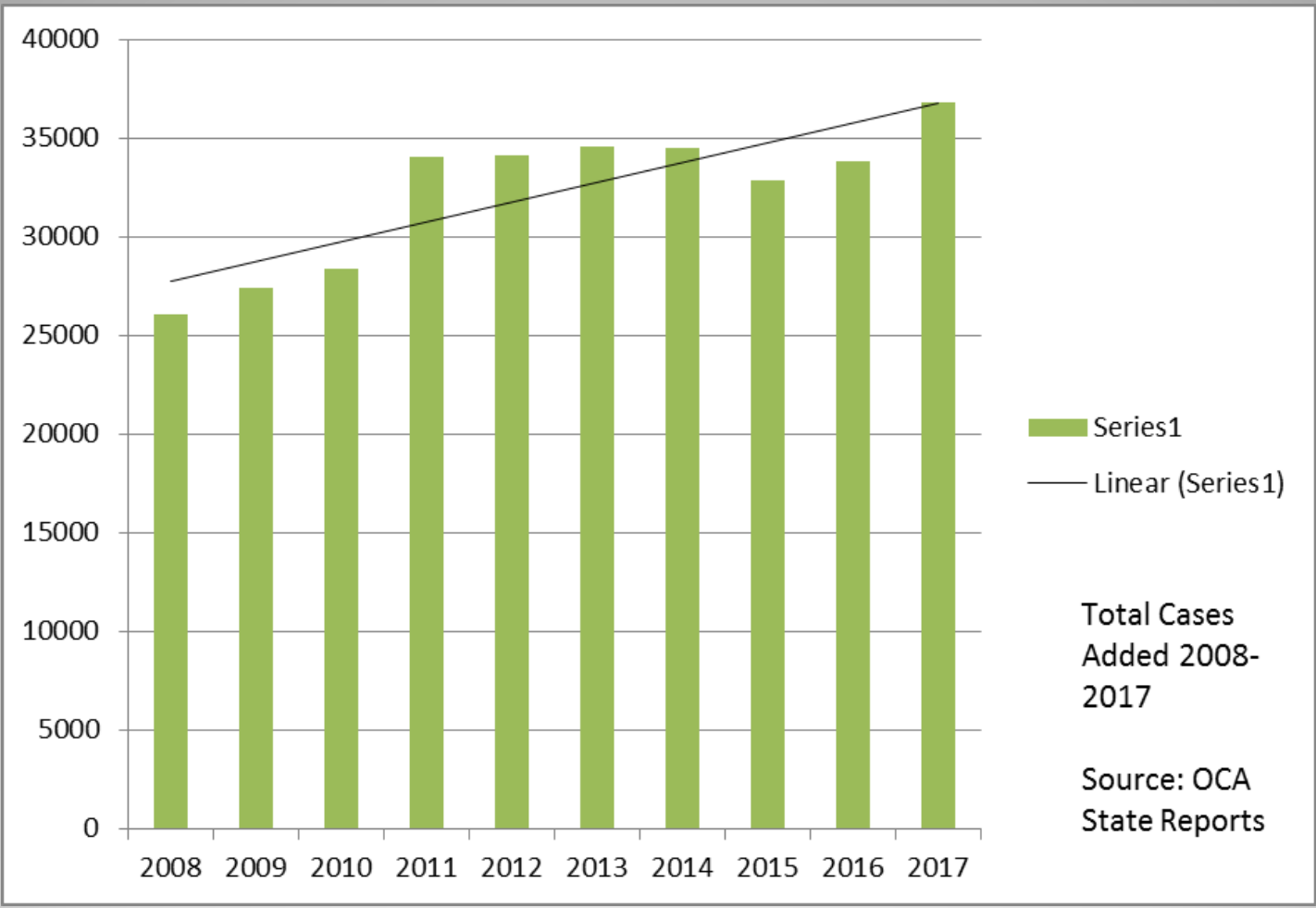


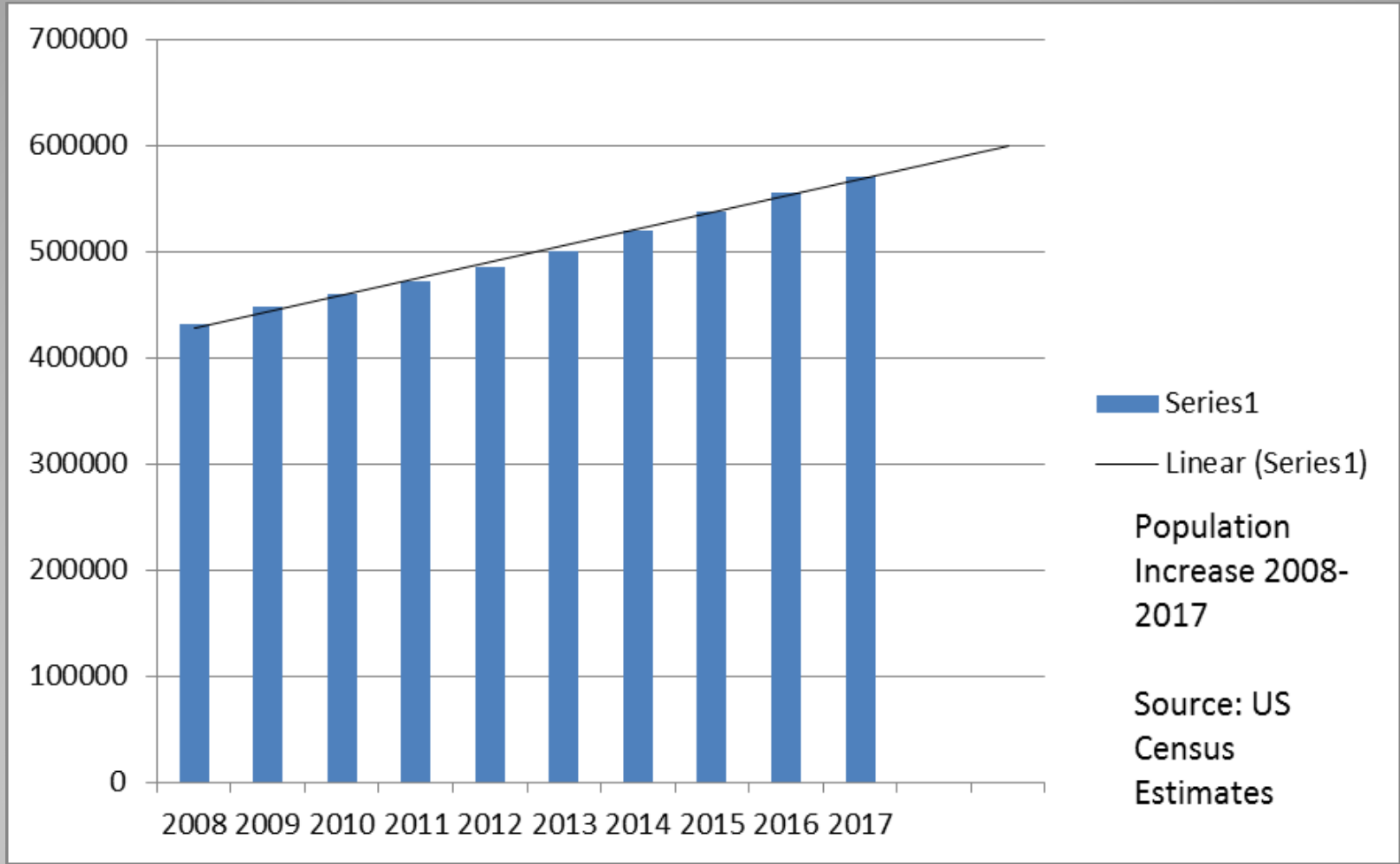
# **New Court Discussion**

Commissioners Court – November 20, 2018

- Last court was created 12 years ago (in 2007 Legislature);
- Annual caseload in District Courts and County Courts has risen by 10,000 cases since 2008, a 41.3% increase; and
- Population in Montgomery County has risen by 139,696 during the same time period, a 32.4% increase.



# CASELOAD BY YEAR



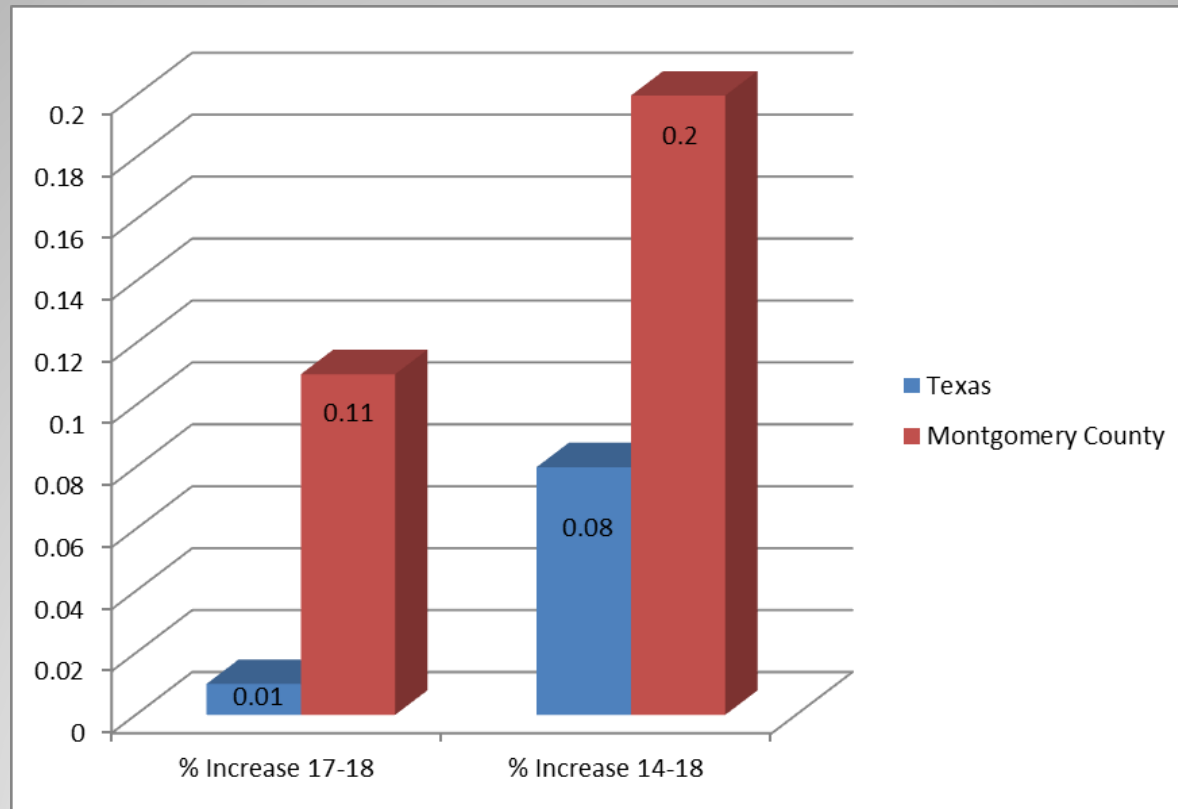
# POPULATION BY YEAR

- State of Texas uses a workload analysis to determine necessary number of judicial officers; and
- State OCA estimates that total FTE judicial officers needed for District jurisdiction cases (District Court + County Courts handling concurrent jurisdiction) equals **14.8**, while current *actual* FTEs are **11.2** (8.3 elected, 2.5 associate, 0.4 visiting).

FTE Needs by Case Type Based on <b>District Court</b> Case Weights											
	Felony	Civil	Family	CPS	Juvenile	TOTAL					
District	5.1	2.5	2.8	0.8	0.0	11.2					
CCL		1.2	1.7	0.4	0.3	3.6	does not include misdemeanors, probate or mental health				
Total	5.1	3.6	4.5	1.3	0.3	14.8					

- Felony staffing vs. need = **4.5** vs. **5.1**
- Civil staffing vs. need = **1.8** vs. **3.6**
- Family & CPS staffing vs. need = **4.9** vs. **6.4**

- Part of State OCA Analysis was increase in case filings:



**STATE VS. MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

- Time standards adopted by the Supreme Court of Texas dictate 100% of civil jury cases be disposed within 18 months, and 100% of non-jury cases be disposed in a year.
- Currently, almost 20% of civil cases take longer than a year to be resolved. Currently, only 1% of civil cases are jury trials.



- If you average caseloads per district court in our 5 county population cohort (Denton, Fort Bend, Montgomery, Williamson and Cameron), we are:
  - 37.8% higher in civil;
  - 48.4% higher in family; and
  - 40.6% higher in felony.

900,000

800,000

700,000

600,000

500,000

400,000

300,000

200,000

100,000

0

Denton

Fort Bend

Montgomery

Williamson

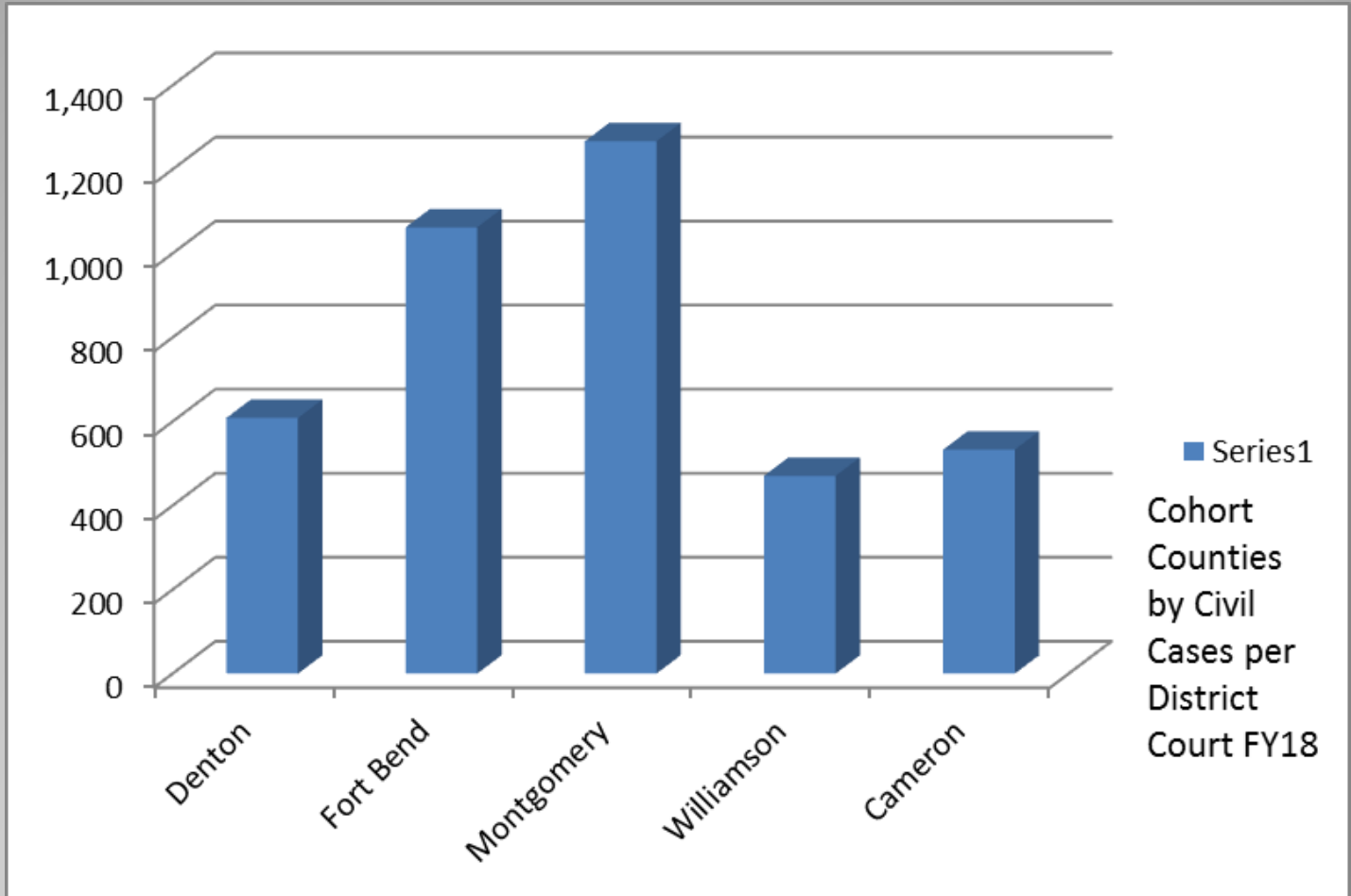
Cameron

Series1

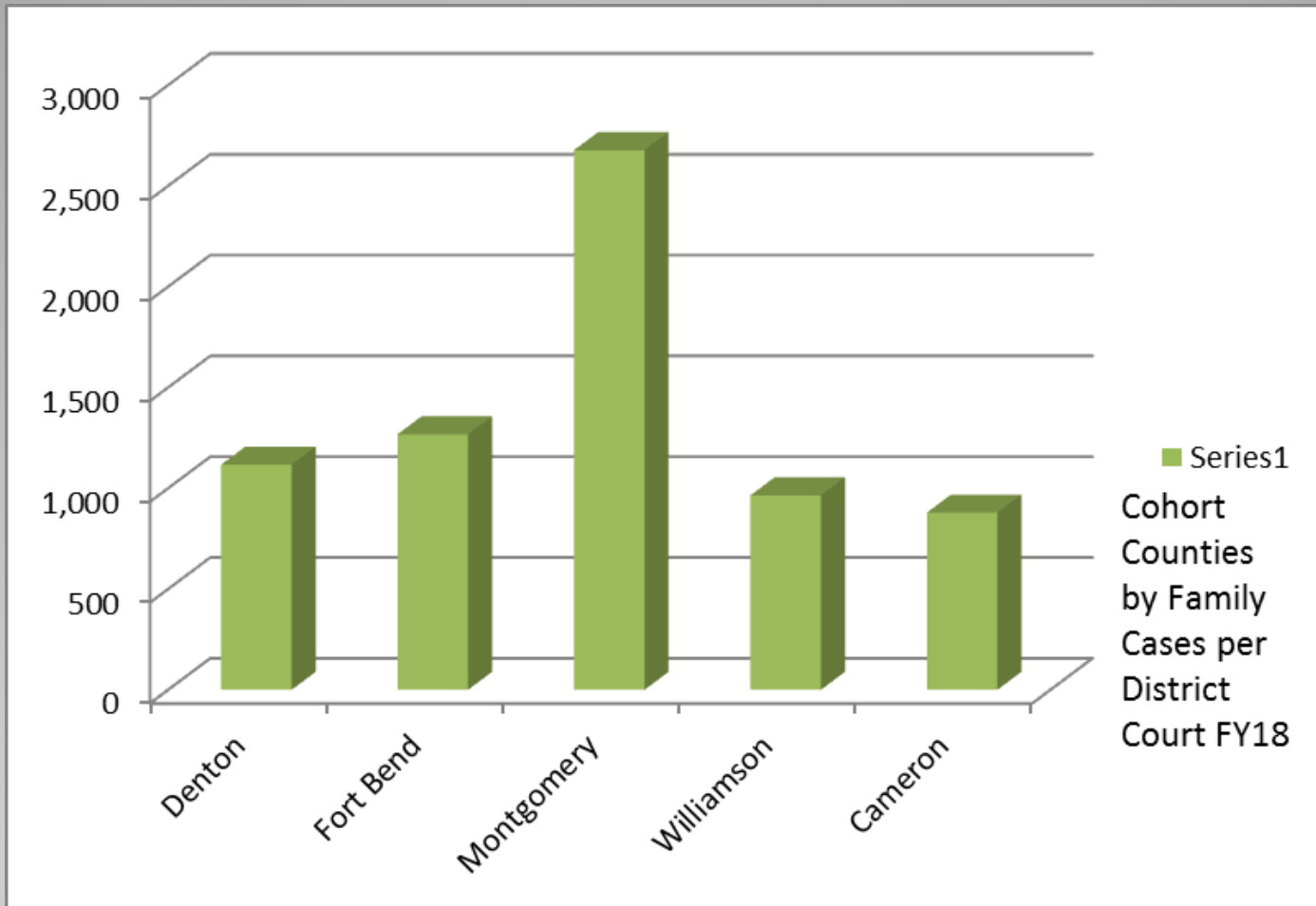
Cohort  
Counties  
by  
Population

Source:  
U.S. Census  
Bureau

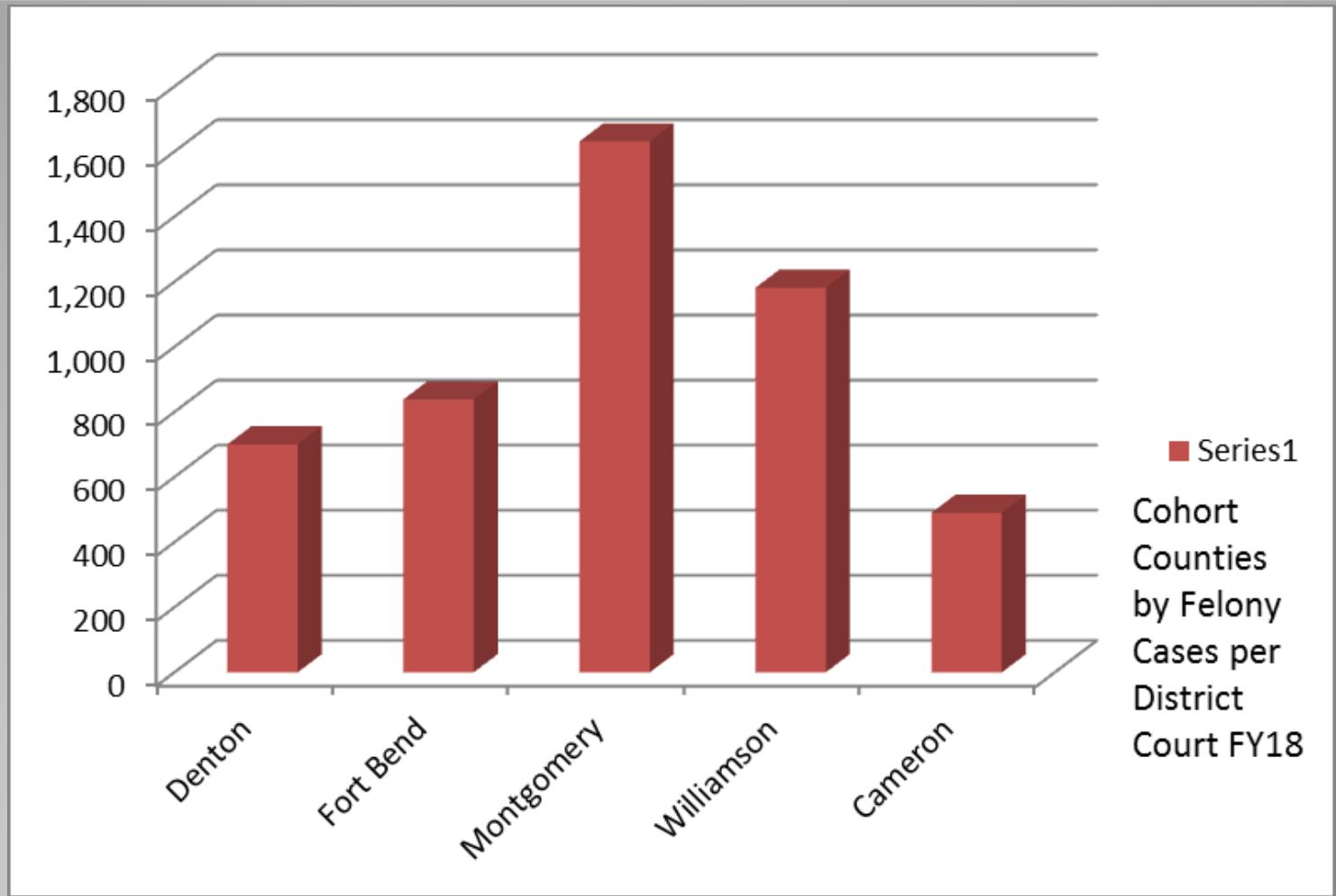
# POPULATION



# CIVIL CASES PER JUDGE



# FAMILY CASES PER JUDGE



# FELONY CASES PER JUDGE

- New court not instantaneous. Earliest funding by Commissioners would be approximately Summer of 2020.
- Minimal cost to county, with District Judge paid by the state, and county only responsible for staff and stipend.
- We already have the courtroom space, including offices.

Questions?

Montgomery County Office of Court  
Administration

(936) 538-8170

[n.jensen@mctx.org](mailto:n.jensen@mctx.org)

**THANK YOU**