

2025 Court Reporting Industry Trends – Brief Summary of Findings

The U.S. court reporting industry faces a workforce crisis that threatens the timely administration of justice, requiring adaptation through digital reporting solutions. Digital court reporting, which matches stenography in accuracy while offering faster delivery, represents a viable solution. Courts and legal firms must embrace technological advancement to maintain record quality and accessibility in an evolving legal landscape.

Five Key Findings:

1. Stenographer Shortage is a Growing Concern

- 21% decline in stenographers nationally over the past decade
- 63% of users agree the number of stenographers is declining
- 82% usage rate for stenographers, despite declining availability, creates a critical mismatch between supply and demand

2. Shortage of Stenographers is Impacting End Users

- 76% report scheduling difficulties due to stenographer unavailability
- 55% cite increased costs for court reporting services
- The shortage affects efficiency, affordability and timely delivery of legal services

3. Stenographers & Digital Court Reporters are Both Valued for Accuracy

- 96% of users identify accuracy as the most important KPI in court reporting
- Both traditional and digital methods provide accurate transcripts
- Digital court reporters, who can be certified in months rather than years like stenographers, can effectively address the shortage while maintaining quality

4. Digital Court Reporters Offer Consistent, On-Time Delivery & Efficiency

- 30% of users cite faster transcript delivery as top reason for preferring digital reporters
- Digital reporting provides quick turnaround without sacrificing transcript quality
- Efficiency advantages make digital reporting an attractive alternative to stenography

5. Technology Can Enhance the Industry

- The global legal technology market is expected to reach \$50 billion by 2027
- Digital tools including automated transcription can streamline court reporting processes
- Technology adoption can address challenges like workforce shortages and rising costs

Source: Court Reporting Industry 2025 Trends Report, AAERT (Based on 27 stakeholder interviews, survey of 550+ court reporting users, and secondary research conducted Q4 2024)