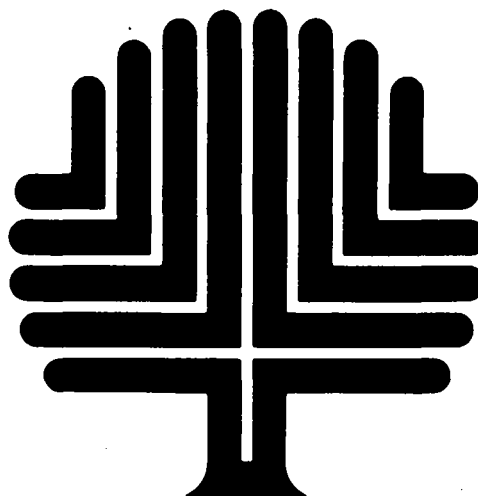




# State court caseload statistics:

## Annual Report 1981



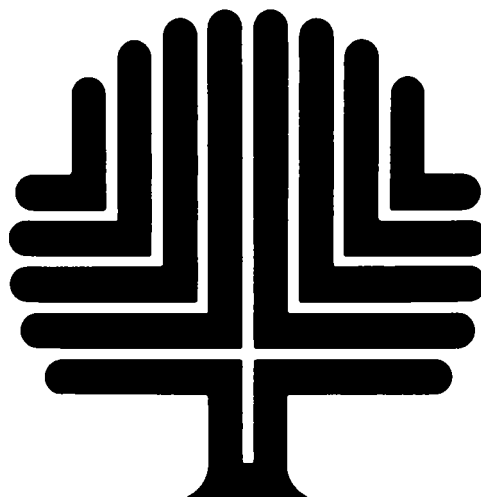
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Court Statistics and  
Information Management Project  
April, 1985

**I M P O R T A N T**

**We have provided an evaluation sheet at the end of this publication. It will assist us in improving future reports if you complete and return it at your convenience.**

This project was supported by Federal Grant No. 83-BJ-CX-K018(S-1) awarded to the National Center for State Courts, Williamsburg, Virginia, by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), U.S. Department of Justice, under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as amended. The Court Statistics and Information Management Project is directed by Victor E. Flango for the National Center for State Courts and monitored by Carla K. Gaskins for BJS. Points of view or opinions stated in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

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State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report, 1981 continues the series containing statistical caseload data provided by state court administrators. This volume is a result of the cooperative effort between the National Center for State Courts and the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) to develop within the Center a repository of state court caseload statistics. The effort is funded by the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the United States Department of Justice.

This edition of the Annual Report streamlines the data presentation by displaying only comparative caseload information. The individual state data from which the summary tables were derived are available in machine-readable form from the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan. The availability of data in machine-readable form is an asset to all people conducting research on state courts. Project staff are available to respond to any questions about the data.

The Court Statistics and Information Management Project (CSIM) continues to expand the scope of its activities and capabilities, shifting its focus from data collection and publication to the analysis of these data for the benefit of the courts community. This Annual Report series will continue to be the principal

The Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) continues to support the efforts of the National Center for State Courts to gather, analyze, and disseminate statistical information on state court systems. Policy control and direction of the National Center's Court Statistics and Information Management Project is exercised by a committee composed of state court administrators, court data processing personnel, a trial court administrator, and a representative from the academic community.

We continue to be guided by the users of this information in improving the quality and presentation of the data. Many of the summary tables have been rearranged to place courts that report comparable information adjacent to each other. Improving both the quality of the data and its presentation is an ongoing process that demands increasing awareness of comparable subject-matter jurisdiction among the states. We believe that these additions and modifications will help the users of this report to find the information they need.

This year's continued automation of the data contained within this Report will greatly improve staff's ability to conduct sophisticated analysis of court management data and encourage research

source of comparative state court caseload information. Each year, the comparability of data reported in the series has improved. This year's compilation of a Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting has enhanced significantly the comparability of the data.

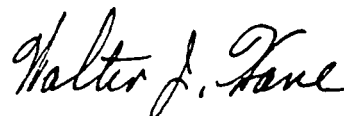
The National Center has been assisted in data gathering for the production of the Annual Report by state and local-level court personnel from across the country. The leadership of COSCA and especially the COSCA-CSIS Committee, now chaired by Walter Kane of Rhode Island, have helped guide project staff in their search for ways to make these data more useful.



Edward B. McConnell,  
Executive Director  
National Center for State Courts

by making caseload data available to researchers in machine-readable form. (See the introduction for details).

As always, we must caution the reader of this report to pay close attention to all indications of the completeness and comparability of data, and to read the introduction to the report where the methodology used to construct the report is discussed. Face sheets for the summary tables further outline the sources of data, the rationale behind some of the summary statistics, and minimum limitations that should be considered in interpreting the data. An inspection of the current edition and the previous editions of this report should demonstrate to the reader that the quality and quantity of court-related data continue to improve.



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The preparation of State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report, 1981 has been supervised and greatly assisted by the Court Statistics and Information Systems (CSIS) Committee appointed from the membership of the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA). The CSIS Committee members have given generously of their time, talent, and experience. Their participation has been invaluable to the project staff. The positive control exerted by COSCA through this committee, using a review and approval process, has greatly enhanced the quality of this report.

The COSCA CSIS Committee members, however, are not the only COSCA members whose assistance has been vital to the production of this document. The administrators and their staff in all the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico have provided the Court Statistics and Information Management Project with whatever research materials they had available, both published and unpublished, and

they have been consistently patient and helpful in answering written and telephoned inquiries for more data or for explanations of the data provided. Their continuing support of the development of a national data base of state court statistics within the National Center for State Courts is the crucial element in determining the quality of the statistics that are being gathered.

The members of the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks are other indispensable sources of much-needed data. The clerks volunteered to provide and verify appellate court data that in many states are unavailable from any other source. Their assistance has been invaluable in increasing the quality of appellate court data available to the project.

The Court Statistics and Information Management Project staff would like to recognize and thank all these many individuals who have contributed to this seventh in the series of annual reports on state court caseload statistics.

# Highlights

The development and production of this Annual Report series is a scientific process aimed at obtaining comparable data on the state courts. The Court Statistics and Information Management Project of the National Center for State Courts is a relatively new effort, funded by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, whose purpose is to gather aggregate state caseload data in order to identify national patterns in court business and better understand the various state court systems. This process is discussed further in the introduction.

Data availability has improved from the earlier part of this century, when the first national compilation of caseload data was attempted. Some gross volume data are displayed in this report for all appellate courts, for most of the trial courts of general jurisdiction, and for many of the trial courts of limited or special jurisdiction. For the first time the validity and reliability of the trial court data has been verified through coordination with the recently completed Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting. However, the validity and reliability of the appellate data has not yet been ascertained.

Substantial effort by the Court Statistics and Information Management Project (CSIM) staff and the Conference of State Court Administrators CSIS Committee was required to develop a methodology for displaying nationwide state court caseload for the first annual report, published in 1979 to cover the 1975 court year. The second annual report (i.e., 1976), published in 1980, added data from limited jurisdiction courts. In the third edition of the Annual Report series, the summary tables were extensively revised to reflect recommendations made by members of a Methodological Review Panel. The summary statistics presented in this seventh annual report reflect the state of the art in collecting and reporting state court statistics and are presented in a format designed to increase their comparability.

For the reader of this document, cautionary notes necessarily abound. The summary tables in this annual report do not permit extensive, valid, direct comparisons of caseload among states without careful examination of all other factors involved in assuring that the data are comparable. Variations in data availability, court organization, subject matter jurisdiction, definitions of case types and units of count, reporting periods, and the degrees of completeness and accuracy of data all combine to make cross-jurisdictional comparisons extremely complex. These variations are discussed in general terms in the introduction to the report. A "limitation on analysis" section can be found in the face sheets accompanying each summary table.

Comparisons among the 1981 data contained in this report and the 1975 through 1980 data contained in the first six reports in this series should be made only after careful examination of the above mentioned factors. Any efforts to compare this year's data with previous years' must account for two important changes implemented during 1981: the impact of the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting; and the effect of definitional changes

approved by the COSCA-CSIS committee. These changes are discussed in greater detail in the introduction.

This report is divided into two parts, each with its own purpose. The summary statistical tables in Part I were constructed from individual court profiles for all the states (i.e., see Appendix C). The overwhelming majority of these data was obtained from the annual reports published by each of the individual states. There are some unpublished data, however, which are provided by the states during verification. In past years, these individual state profiles were provided in Part II of this Report. This year, however, Part II consists of state court system charts exclusively. Since the summary tables present the most complete and comparable of the data elements, the statistical profiles were viewed as redundant and dispensable in an effort to create a more succinct volume.

This two-part structure for the document required its preparation to proceed in stages. First an overview court organization chart and an individual statistical profile were prepared for each state's appellate and trial courts. Data were then compiled into nationwide inventory statistics (begin pending, filed, disposed, and end pending). The inventory statistics were separated where possible into broad case category classifications.

Several general observations can be made about the 1981 state court caseload data. First, in addition to the increase in available data, the number of cases filed in the courts has also increased from 1980 to 1981. The caseload estimates indicate that the number of cases filed per judge has increased. Most trial courts also reported increases in the number of filings from 1980 to 1981. Second, the courts have managed to handle this increase in filings fairly well with most courts disposing between 90 and 100 percent of the number of cases filed. A few courts disposed more cases than were filed. The disposition rates of less than 100 percent, however, mean that most courts are adding to their pending caseload. For courts reporting pending caseload, most had increases of less than 20 percent. Finally, for courts reporting pending and filed data, the number of cases pending at the end of the year as a percent of the number of cases filed was less than 60 percent for most courts of last resort, less than 90 percent for most intermediate appellate courts and for civil caseload in most trial courts, less than 50 percent for criminal caseload in most trial courts, and less than 50 percent for juvenile caseload in most trial courts.

The composition of the caseload of the courts is also of interest. In the appellate courts, the data available indicate that approximately 55 percent of the appeals filed in 1981 were civil appeals. For the trial courts in 1981 the caseload estimates indicate that of the cases filed, approximately 14.8 million were civil cases, 9.2 million were criminal cases, and 1.3 million were juvenile cases.

The court system charts in Part II are helpful references because they indicate the organization and subject matter jurisdiction of the courts in each state.

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## **Introduction**

# Introduction

## Courts Statistics and Information Management Project

The Annual Report series of state court caseload statistics is the product of the continuing cooperative effort between the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). Financial management, project management, and project staffing responsibility are assumed by the Court Statistics and Information Management (CSIM) Project, formerly called the National Court Statistics Project (NCSP) of the NCSC. COSCA, through its Court Statistics and Information Systems Committee, provides general policy review, guidance, and control over all project activities. The series is funded by the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

The goals of the Court Statistics and Information Management Project are to collect, compile, analyze and disseminate comparable state court caseload statistics, and to help states improve the quality of the data by assisting the states in resolving their statistical problems. The Annual Report series responds directly to the first goal by compiling all available state court caseload data from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico.<sup>1</sup>

## Dynamics of improvement

Historical development. Ideas and suggestions for improvement of this state court caseload statistical series have come from many sources, and have provided the creative stimulus needed to assess current CSIM Project efforts and to map future directions.

Continuation of evolutionary improvement in this statistical series rests, ultimately, upon the ability of the CSIM Project to maintain a productive dialogue and flow of ideas among the producer-compilers of the Annual Report, its data sources, and its end users. Much improvement in state court statistics has already been achieved, but much remains to be done.

During compilation of the State of the Art and the 1975 Annual Report, a staggering classification problem resulted from the multitude of terms being used by the states to report their caseloads. The need for both a model annual report and a statistical dictionary of terms for court usage became obvious. These documents, published in 1980, are to be used as tools to assist the states in improving their statistics. Such improvement should eventually be reflected in future annual reports.

The State Court Model Annual Report<sup>2</sup> is a flexible working outline of critically needed, basic management data that should, as a minimum, be included in state court annual reports. The

<sup>1</sup>Repetition of "50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico" becomes very cumbersome. Throughout the rest of this report, "states" and "court systems" will be used for the reporting units that include the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico.

<sup>2</sup>National Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, State Court Model Annual Report (Williamsburg, VA, 1980).

model identifies the kinds of data and the types of display required to meet management needs. The State Court Model Statistical Dictionary<sup>3</sup> is a companion document which provides common terminology, definitions, and usage for reporting civil, criminal, traffic, juvenile, and appellate caseload inventory and manner of disposition as presented in the model annual report. The classification structure and definitions serve as models of preferred terminology and meanings for purposes of statewide and national comparison. The first edition of the dictionary covers those data elements essential for classifying court caseload inventory and manner of disposition. A supplement to the dictionary, published in 1984, contains revisions of those terms that experience has demonstrated needed improvement, as well as additional data element sets for court caseload (events in case processing) which are needed to determine status of pending cases.

Both of these documents must be viewed as a logical first step in promoting comparable court statistics. They were not available to states in time to affect their reporting systems or the national Annual Reports before 1981. Nevertheless, their effect will be noticeable in each succeeding national-level Annual Report because the CSIM Project's technical assistance effort is interwoven with the Annual Report national statistical series. This is accomplished by helping states adopt the suggestions in the Model Annual Report and Model Statistical Dictionary and by proactive identification of particular state systems that could benefit from technical assistance directed at helping resolve existing methodological problems of classification structure, terminology, definition of local data-reporting procedures, and data handling/transformation procedures. To the extent that such technical assistance suggestions are adopted, individual states directly benefit and the Annual Report national statistical series indirectly benefits.

State Court Organization, 1980<sup>4</sup> is also related to the annual report in that it contains the types of organizational information most often sought by court administrators and researchers.

The Court Case Management Information System Manual<sup>5</sup> was produced jointly by the National Court Statistics Project (now CSIM) and the State Judicial Information Systems Project to provide a methodology for building a court information system that would provide the data needed for both daily court operations and longer-term case management, resource allocation, and strategic planning.

<sup>3</sup>National Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, State Court Model Statistical Dictionary (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1980).

<sup>4</sup>National Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, State Court Organization, 1980 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1982).

<sup>5</sup>Clifford and Jensen, Court Case Management Information Systems Manual (Williamsburg, National Center for State Courts, 1983).

Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting. The automation of the database required a degree of precision in coding every data element that was unavailable with the 1979 and 1980 databases. The statistical profiles for those years suffered from imprecision and ambiguity that affected the quality of data. For example, in previous years general terms were used that did not state what types of cases were included in categories such as "civil" and "other civil." These terms should not have been used to make comparisons among courts. At that point it was clear that a major effort would be needed to identify specifically the subject matter jurisdiction and methods of counting cases in the state courts. This effort would be undertaken in two stages. The current stage has focused on problems related to counting cases in the trial courts, and has culminated in the publication of the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting.<sup>6</sup> Information from this jurisdiction guide has been incorporated into the database for 1981. Work on the jurisdiction guide has convinced staff of an essential link between the guide and the providing of comparable data. Stage two involves the preparation of an appellate court jurisdiction guide for the 1983 appellate court database.

The impact of the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting has been profound. The following insights explain differences between 1981 data reported in this volume, and those data reported in previous editions of this series. This guide has now enabled staff:

1. to more definitively classify a state's caseload and disposition data into standard CSIM case types (e.g., does a state report DWI/DUI with its criminal or traffic caseload; include parking within its traffic count; separate appeals in the trial courts from original filings; etc.);
2. to identify proceedings that one court may count as cases, but that do not comport with any standard CSIM case types (e.g., original complaints of administrative law cases; license to bear arms; etc.);
3. to improve significantly our understanding as to the completeness of a data element by now being able to explain the omission of a case type from a statistical profile. In past volumes we could not definitively explain why a case type was not included in a state's profile. It could have been excluded because: (a) the court did not have jurisdiction; (b) the court had jurisdiction, but the data were unavailable; or (c) the court had jurisdiction, but the data were collapsed with that of another case type. We can now explain the nature of "missing data;"
4. to understand the various methods used in counting criminal cases. In previous volumes criminal cases were separated into two basic units of count--based on whether the court counted the defendant or charging document. The jurisdiction guide has alerted us to the inadequacies of counting, for example, the number of charging documents. We need to know the contents of the charging document--the number of defendants and the number of charges/incidents. For example, if

two defendants went on a crime spree in which they robbed a shop, assaulted a customer and murdered a clerk, a different number of cases would be reported depending on the criminal unit of count:

	<u>Number of cases</u>
State A--one indictment can have only one defendant and one charge: 2 defendants x 3 charges each =	6
State B--one indictment can have only one defendant and unlimited charges: 2 defendants x 1 set of unlimited charges =	2
State C--one indictment can have unlimited number of defendants and unlimited charges: 1 set of defendants x 1 set of unlimited charges =	1

In addition, for the first time this project has built into the criminal unit of count the point in the process when the criminal case is counted. For example, felony cases may be counted at the filing of the complaint, or of the information/indictment. Many felony cases drop out of the process between these two events. Therefore, the felony case count will vary significantly depending on the point in the process at which it is counted. These new units of count are illustrated for each of the state courts in Figure C (located just before Table 26);

5. to define more accurately the point during the judicial process where a trial is counted, i.e., the voir dire, the introduction of evidence or the verdict. Once again many cases drop out of the trial process between the voir dire and verdict. Therefore, the trial count will vary significantly depending on the trial definition; and
6. to identify and correct double counting problems that resulted from the different reporting methods used by some states in presenting their data.

Other information obtained through the jurisdiction guide led to several changes in the classification of cases. All of these changes are implemented, for the first time, in this 1981 volume. These changes should be considered when comparing this volume to previous years, and can be summarized briefly as follows.

- I. Renaming case types:
  1. Criminal-type offense juvenile cases are now called criminal-type petitions;
  2. Status offense juvenile cases are now called status petitions;
  3. Non-offense juvenile cases are now called child-victim petitions; and
  4. Traffic cases are now called traffic/other violation cases, which includes ordinance violations as well.
- II. Case type terminology eliminated: the following terms have been eliminated and the cases redistributed among new case types which will be defined later: for example, "law," "equity" and "other" case types. The jurisdiction guide found the term "other" included a whole array of cases including some that belong in other CSIM case types and some that do not. Two new terms will replace "other:" miscellaneous and unclassified.

<sup>6</sup>Clifford and Roper, Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting (Williamsburg, National Center for State Courts, 1985).

### III. New case type categories:

1. "Miscellaneous" case types include those cases that cannot be categorized into one of the standard CSIM case definitions. This is one of the terms that replaces "other."
2. Group of cases that cannot be placed into specific CSIM case categories will be grouped under the term "unclassified." This is the second of two terms that replaces "other."
3. Moving traffic violations is a new category extracted from the category "other traffic" used in previous editions.
4. Paternity/bastardy is a new case type subdivision within the major reporting case type of domestic relations. This new category was created in response to an increasing demand for such information.
5. Previous volumes of this series treated felonies filed in general jurisdiction courts as the total sum of felonies. The jurisdiction guide has discovered that, in some states, a significant number of felonies are originally filed and finally disposed of in limited jurisdiction courts. In previous volumes, felonies finally disposed of in limited jurisdiction courts were not counted in the total felony count. This undercount of felonies has been remedied with the creation of a new case type called limited felony. A limited felony is a felony that is permanently disposed of (e.g., through a guilty plea, dismissal, etc.) in a limited jurisdiction court.

### IV. Case types moved to other major case categories:

1. DWI/DUI cases were moved from the traffic to the criminal caseload.
2. Ordinance violations were moved from the criminal to the traffic/other violation caseload.
3. Extraordinary writs were combined with miscellaneous cases.

### V. Proceedings removed from the caseload count:

1. Sentence review only proceedings were removed from the caseload count.
2. Postconviction remedy proceedings were removed from the caseload count.
3. Preliminary hearings that resulted in a felony being bound over or otherwise transferred to another court were removed from the caseload count to avoid double counting felonies in a statewide count.

### Uses of court statistical data

The four major uses of court statistical data, as identified in the CSIM publications, State Court Caseload Statistics: The State of the Art and Court Case Management Information Systems Manual<sup>7</sup>, are (1) operational (aiding in the execution of routine day-to-day activities at the local level); (2) management (decision making

at the state or local level concerned with improvement of the court process and system-wide efficiency in the use of court resources); (3) internal planning and research (goal setting and policy planning to establish long-term programs and identify evolving problems); and (4) indirect court uses (decision making by those outside the courts concerned with policy making or research about court operations). The various uses of court statistics require different levels of detail and analysis, but the availability of detailed statistics is dependent upon the statistical reporting system used at the state or local level. This annual report restricts its scope to the level of detail currently available from state-level reporting systems.

Operational decisions are made at the local level and require detailed information on a case-by-case basis. These decisions must be made daily and cannot be based upon year-end summary statistics such as those contained in this 1981 report.

Management decisions can be made at either the state or local level and require aggregation of detailed information used for operational decisions. Caseflow management data, such as that needed to determine the status of the preparation of the record for appeal or to generate exception reports, are gathered by some state reporting systems. This kind of information, however, is also case specific and too detailed to be compiled and used for nationwide comparisons. In contrast, state-level summary statistics are useful for management purposes in areas such as: comparisons of time lapses in case processing to establish norms or guides; analyses to determine assignments of judges needed to relieve backlog; analyses to determine the need for additional judges, support personnel, or facilities; and analyses to determine the impact of an intermediate appellate court on the state system.

In response to the recognized need for certain management data nationally, the 1981 Annual Report has concentrated on uniformly Classifying Caseload Data and on Compiling Available Case Processing Time Data for Appellate Courts. Caseload and case processing are major components of court workload. The CSIM Project has defined workload to mean all court-related matters that consume time and effort (hence, purely administrative and ministerial functions are also included as workload). Measurement of court workload per se is not directly addressed in this report, but caseload inventory data and data regarding the number of trials are partial indicators of judicial activity. The data presented in this report reflect the quantity of management data available from each state's reporting system in published and unpublished reports.

Internal planning and research, as well as planning and research by those outside the court system, require a much wider range of data and analysis than operational and management decisions. The information necessary for these purposes often includes not only an aggregation of data on caseload and caseflow, but also specific data regarding status of cases, as well as information on court operations, judicial budgets, actions prior to filing a case, and actions after disposition of a case. Of interest to some individuals within and outside the court system are studies on a wide range of other subjects, such as the effect and cost of litigation, bail availability and uniformity including recognizance/10% bail programs, the validity of case weighting techniques, sentence disparity patterns, the effects of plea

<sup>7</sup>National Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, State Court Caseload Statistics: The State of the Art (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1978). Clifford and Jensen, Court Case Management Information Systems Manual (Williamsburg, National Center for State Courts, 1983).

negotiation on caseloads, and the impact of legislation on court management. To answer these questions is, however, beyond the capabilities of most state or even local court information systems. Basic information on caseload and caseload flow is adequate for many other planning and research issues where the level of needed detail is not as high. These latter kinds of issues include, for example, case filing and disposition trend analysis, caseload composition analysis, analysis of reversal rates, time lapse analysis to establish norms and guides, and forecasting of caseload volumes to determine resource and facilities needs.

#### Scope of the data in the annual report series

The first annual report (1975) presented available caseload data for state appellate courts and trial courts of general jurisdiction, and for selected categories (juvenile, domestic relations, probate, and mental health) in limited jurisdiction courts. The second annual report (1976) again presented available data for appellate courts and courts of general jurisdiction, and also included all available caseload data for all limited jurisdiction courts. As data from each court level become more complete, future aggregation of trial court caseloads should become more meaningful.

The 1976 report was expanded to include Puerto Rico. Data from Guam were added for the 1977 court year. The scope of future reports will be broadened to include American Samoa and the Virgin Islands when these data become available.

The 1979 and 1980 Annual Reports made major advances in eliminating repetitiveness in presenting data elements in the summary tables, and in organizing the data in the summary tables by its completeness and comparability.

This report reflects court organization and jurisdiction as it existed in 1981. The reader, however, should keep in mind that court systems are not static entities. For example, in 1979, Connecticut consolidated its trial courts, eliminating its Juvenile Court and Court of Common Pleas and shifting this jurisdiction to its Superior Court. The dollar amount limits of civil jurisdiction have changed in many courts. Since court organizational or jurisdictional characteristics change over time, caution should be exercised in attempting to compare the data in this 1981 report with earlier data or with more current data.

In addition, special care must be taken when comparing the data in this 1981 volume with previous editions of this series. Two major events affected the 1981 data: there were major changes in classifying the data (e.g., ordinance violations were moved from the criminal caseload to the traffic/other violation category); and the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting was used for the first time in coding the data. Both of these factors will be discussed in greater detail later in this introduction. Suffice it to say that the 1981 data are the most comparable of the series.

#### Data collection

Data sources. The sources of data for the tables presented in this series are the published annual reports provided by the states and unpublished statistical material requested of, and supplied by state court administrators and appellate court clerks. (Appendix B of this report identifies

the sources of data from each state.) Additional relevant information was secured from appropriate personnel in each state. Telephone contact and follow-up correspondence were used to collect missing data, confirm the accuracy of available data, and determine the legal jurisdiction of each court. Information was collected concerning the number of judges per court or court system (from annual reports, offices of state court administrators, and appellate clerks); the state population (based on Bureau of the Census 1981 revised estimates); other 1981 demographic data (taken from the Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1981<sup>8</sup>); and special characteristics regarding subject matter jurisdiction and court structure.

Each state profile and court system chart underwent major revisions to reflect jurisdictional changes identified by the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting.

Verification of data. All state court statistical profiles prepared by CSIM staff were submitted for review and verification to the appropriate state court administrator's office. An additional check was provided through the cooperation of the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks (NCACC), which invited CSIM staff to submit appellate court data for review and verification to the appropriate clerk of the appellate court in each state. This process also included followup by CSIM staff through telephone or letter contact with the state personnel. All of the 53 states and territories covered by this report verified the data for 1981. Finally, the format, content, and limitations of data tables have been reviewed and approved by the COSCA CSIS Committee, which guides the Court Statistics and Information Management Project.

In order to produce the statistics contained in this report, a great deal of effort was expended by CSIM Project staff in collecting missing data, whether from published or ancillary sources, in defining terminology, and in identifying categories in which cases should be placed. In other words, data contained in this report cannot be replicated solely from available published material. Yet, even after this extensive data-gathering effort, large gaps remain in the data collected.

Although attempts to reconcile obvious discrepancies in reported data were made, the CSIM Project staff did not have the resources to assess the underlying validity or accuracy of the data received from the states. For example, the published cumulative case statistics for appellate courts or for trial courts frequently did not balance with reported totals within each category.

Types of data included. As a result of the fact that few states report data suitable for all kinds of planning and research purposes, and because most states report only certain types of data, the NCSP initially chose to include in the national series only those kinds of data that either were already fairly widely available or could be made available without requiring undue effort. Enough states reported trend data, caseload by category, number of reversals, and time-to-disposition data to warrant inclusion of these topics in this report, and some preliminary

<sup>8</sup>U.S. Bureau of the Census, Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1981 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1981).



analyses can be made. For those states not supplying basic data, "not/available" entries in the summary tables draw attention to the missing data. In the past, all data supplied by a state, complete or not, were entered in the summary tables. Beginning in 1979, only data that are complete (or at least 90% complete for a case category) are displayed in the summary tables. This was done to facilitate comparability.

Many current variations in court data, as indicated by footnotes in the summary tables, must be considered before summary tables can be constructed to make comparisons among courts or states. Variations that limit the comparability of interstate data in 1981 include: court organization, subject matter jurisdiction, case definition, units of count, completeness, accuracy, and reporting periods.

Variations in reporting periods. As indicated on profile headings and in Figure A, most states report data by calendar year; many report by fiscal year, however, and a few report appellate court data by court term. Therefore, the time spans covered in this report are not always directly comparable.

Although data included in this report cover reporting periods of approximately uniform length, the starting and ending dates for the reporting periods vary both within and among states. Differences in reporting periods have little effect on cumulative data elements such as filings and dispositions, since no matter when the reporting period began and ended, the data cover one complete year. Pending data are greatly affected, though, since they represent a "snapshot" in time and can vary greatly depending on when that snapshot was taken. Figure A displays the actual reporting periods for all courts not using the calendar year for the reporting period.

#### Data display

Case category classifications. CSIM case categories used for this 1981 report are those chosen by the COSCA CSIS Committee for inclusion in the State Court Model Annual Report and State Court Model Statistical Dictionary. These case categories appear as principal headings in the summary tables in Part I, and in each state's system chart in Part II. The CSIM main headings are categories used uniformly for all the states. For example, a state's "application for leave to appeal" was classified under the CSIM category of "request to appeal" in all tables. These appear, where appropriate, as footnotes to the summary tables.

Format used. Summary Tables (Part I). Complete data from each state profile were transferred into summary tables designed to display the kinds of available data that could be aggregated. The summary tables are divided into two major sections (appellate and trial) to reflect the two major levels of courts.

Appellate courts include both courts of last resort (the final court or courts of appeal within a state) and intermediate appellate courts (the court or courts in which the primary work is the disposition of initial appeals received from trial courts of general jurisdiction or administrative agencies, and in which some decisions are subject to appeal or review by a court of last resort). For purposes of displaying data, the courts of last resort have been divided into two groups: those in states with intermediate appellate courts and those in states without intermediate appellate courts.

With few exceptions, this division conveniently separates courts of last resort according to whether they have almost complete discretionary jurisdiction. Courts of last resort in states without intermediate appellate courts generally have little or no discretionary jurisdiction, although there are exceptions, such as Virginia and West Virginia.

For purposes of this report, a trial court is considered to be a court of general jurisdiction if it meets one of the following criteria:

--The individual state considers it a general jurisdiction court.

--Felony cases are tried and felony sentences given for all types of felony cases.

--The judges of the court are general jurisdiction court judges sitting on temporary assignment.

All other trial courts are classified as limited jurisdiction courts.

In the 1975 Annual Report, the states were arranged alphabetically in all summary tables. In 1976 the trial courts handling criminal cases were grouped according to the way in which criminal cases were counted in each court. In the 1979 report, a further evolution in the grouping of states has been added to all trial court case type tables (except juvenile) in order to place together those courts that have similar subject matter jurisdiction. Trial court case type tables are also arranged in this volume as follows:

#### Complete state data:

1. Exclusive court jurisdiction: States where one court has exclusive case type jurisdiction.
2. Not exclusive court jurisdiction: States where two or more courts have case type jurisdiction.

#### Incomplete state data:

3. States where one or more courts have case type jurisdiction, but complete data are not reported by one or more courts.

Footnotes. Standard footnote headings specifying the completeness and quality of the data are used on all summary tables and will continue to be used in the Annual Report series. If more information on the data presented in the summary tables is needed, the user should contact this project at the National Center for State Courts to obtain information concerning individual court statistical profiles.

Court system charts (Part II). After the 1981 case data available from each state were classified, a profile of the courts in each state was constructed. See Appendix C for a prototype of the statistical profiles used in the 1981 data collection. These statistical profiles are no longer published in these volumes. They now serve as worksheets for compilation of the data base. Each state court system chart for 1981 depicts the organization of the court system within the state, the jurisdiction and route of appeal for each court, the number of judges, and information on the types of trials. These charts become Part II of this report.

#### Data interpretation

Several devices are used in the summary tables for analyzing the caseload data. The measures selected for use vary according to the data being analyzed and are explained in the face sheets accompanying each group of summary tables

**FIGURE A:**  
**Reporting periods for state courts not using the calendar year 1981.**

State	Reporting Period		
	7/01/80- 6/30/81	9/01/80- 8/31/81	10/01/80- 9/30/81
Alabama			All courts
Alaska	All courts		
California	All courts		
Colorado	All courts		
Connecticut	All courts		
Delaware	All courts		
Georgia	All courts, except the Georgia Court of Appeals	Supreme Court	
Hawaii	All courts		
Kansas	All courts		
Kentucky	All courts		
Maryland	All courts		
Massachusetts	All trial courts	All appellate courts	
Michigan	All courts except Court of Appeals		
Missouri	All courts		
Montana	Justice of the Peace Court, City Court, and Municipal Court		
Nebraska	Workmen's Compensation Court	Supreme Court	
New Hampshire	District Court, Probate Court, and Municipal Court		
New Jersey		All courts	
New Mexico	All courts		
North Carolina	Superior Court District Court	Supreme Court	
Puerto Rico	All courts		
Rhode Island			Supreme Court
South Dakota	All courts		
Utah	All courts except the Supreme Court and Juvenile Court		
Vermont	All courts		

under headings such as disposed cases as a percent of filed cases, end pending cases as a percent of filed cases, number and percent change in pending caseload, filed cases per unit of population, and filed and disposed cases per judge.

In addition, estimates of national caseload totals are found on Tables 1 and 12. An explanation of the estimation procedure can be found in Appendix A.

Continuing development of the series

The Annual Report series is an evolving product. Given the nature of this newly developing science of gathering, reporting and analyzing state court data, additions and refinements will be a fact of life in successive volumes of the series. Between 1975 and 1976, the amount of data contained in the report was greatly increased by the inclusion of data from all limited jurisdiction courts. In the 1979 report, face sheets were added to the summary tables to explain the type and depth of analysis considered by the CSIM Project to be meaningful, given the quality and completeness of the data. In addition, over half the trial court tables were rearranged to group those states in which case category data could be compared. This rearranging will continue in succeeding volumes. As more is learned about the quality of the data, more specific suggestions will be given for their

proper use, along with warnings to help avoid their abuse. Figure B presents a helpful cross-reference to summary tables in previous editions of this series. This will assist the user to locate similar information that may have been rearranged on the summary tables over the years.

It is important to the long-term improvement of the statistical series that these early volumes in the series be circulated widely enough to encourage reader/user ideas and commentary, and that they be used as a vehicle for developing solutions to problems encountered during the statistical series production process. As each successive volume is published, the CSIM Project can consider the feedback subsequently received from users of the documents, thereby further enhancing succeeding volumes. During this process, the availability to future researchers of successive-year data compilations will preserve complete time series information. The drawbacks occasioned by limitations in data currently available are greatly outweighed by the importance of having data available for all years in a continuing statistical series.

It should also be pointed out that for the third year, the data contained in this report are available in computer-readable form. There are five data sets: appellate caseload, trial caseload, criminal dispositions, civil dispositions, and traffic/other violation dispositions. These data sets were used to construct 32 of the 42 summary tables. This

**FIGURE B:**  
**Cross-reference to summary tables in previous editions of the Annual Report series.**

	<u>Corresponding table numbers for previous reports</u>					
	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>
<b>1981 APPELLATE COURT SUMMARY TABLES:</b>						
1. Caseload estimates	1	1	1	1	1	1
2. Total reported caseload	2	2	2	2	2	2
3. Caseload categories for COLR	5	3	3	3	3	3
4. Caseload categories for IAC's	6	4	4	4	4	4
5. Civil and criminal appeals and requests to appeal for COLR	19	11	8	8	5	5
-----						
6. Civil and criminal appeals and requests to appeal for IAC's	20	12	9	9	6	6
7. COLR w/IAC caseload	7-10	5,6	5	5	7	7
8. COLR w/out IAC caseload	11-14	7,8	6	6	8	8
9. IAC caseload	15-18	9,10	7	7	9	9
-- Number of court opinions			10	10	10	10
10. Time interval data	21	13	10	11	11	11
11. Historical filing data		14, 15	11, 12	12, 13	12, 13	12
-----						
<b>1981 TRIAL COURT SUMMARY TABLES:</b>						
12. Caseload estimates		16	13	14	14	13
13. Reported total civil trial caseload		17-19	14-16	15-17	15	14
14. Reported total criminal trial caseload		17-19	14-16	15-17	15	14
15. Reported total traffic/other violation trial caseload		17-19	14-16	15-17	15	14
16. Reported total juvenile trial caseload		17-19	14-16	15-17	15	14
-----						
17. Civil filed and disposed		20	17	18	16	15
18. Composition of civil general jurisdiction filings	28		18	19	17	16
19. Composition of civil general jurisdiction dispositions	28		19	20	18	17
20. Tort, contract, real property rights and small claims caseload		23-26	20-23	21-24	19-22	18-21
21. Domestic relations caseload	29	27	24	25	23	22
-----						
22. Estate caseload	30	28	25	26	24	23
23. Mental health caseload	31	29	26	27	25	24
24. Civil appeals caseload		30	27	28	26	25
25. Civil trials		48	47	29	27	26
26. Criminal filed and disposed		31	28	30	28	27
-----						
27. Composition of criminal general jurisdiction filings	34		29	31	29	28
28. Composition of criminal general jurisdiction dispositions	34		30	32	30	29
29. Felony, misdemeanor and DWI/DUI caseload	35,36	32-34,41	31-33,40	33-35,42	31-33,40	30-32,39
30. Criminal appeals caseload		37	36	38	36	35
31. Preliminary hearing proceedings		36	35	37	35	34
-----						
32. Type of disposition for criminal cases		38	37	39	37	36
33. Criminal trials		39,48	38,47	40	38	37
34. Traffic/other violation filed and disposed		40	39	41	39	38
35. Ordinance violation caseload		35	34	36	34	33
36. Type of disposition for traffic/other violation cases		43	42	44	41	40
-----						
37. Traffic/other violation trials		48	47	45	42	41
38. Juvenile filed and disposed	42	44	43	46	43	42
39. Criminal-type petition caseload		45	44	47	44	43
40. Status petition caseload		46	45	48	45	44
41. Child-victim petition		47	46	49	46	45
42. Historical filing data		49,50	48,49	50,51	47,48	46

IAC = Intermediate Appellate Court  
 COLR = Court of Last Resort

year, Tables 1, 10-12, 25, 32-33, 36-37, and 42 were still compiled by hand. This number should be reduced in future years.

The jurisdiction guide has affected several aspects of summary table preparation for the trial courts in this volume. Most of these will be discussed in the face sheet accompanying each summary table. One change, however, permeates almost all trial court caseload summary tables. It became clear that pending data are measured differently among the states. This is evidenced, for example, by the fact that in some states the begin pending figure for 1981 does not equal the end pending figure for 1980, while in other states those figures are equal. In yet other situations, the sum of begin pending cases and new filings does not equal the sum of dispositions and end pending cases. Several practices may explain these discrepancies (e.g., how frequently are pending cases purged), and until such discrepancies can be explained, the

COSCA-CSIS committee approved a plan which would continue the reporting of pending data, yet no longer present descriptive statistics using such data (e.g., change in pending statistics) in the summary tables.

The process of building toward meaningful statistics takes time. Concurrently with expanding and refining the Annual Report national statistical series, the CSIM effort must encourage movement toward quality and precision in state court statistics. The necessarily long-term nature of this evolutionary process will contribute greatly to year-to-year improvements and enhancements of the statistical series. Given the complexity of the problems being faced, building toward comparability, quality assurance, and appropriate detail is a necessary incremental process. It is in this light that the CSIM Project presents the data and analysis contained in the Annual Report, 1981.

**Part I**  
**1981 State court caseload**  
**summary statistics**

# Part I

## 1981 State court caseload summary statistics

### Appellate court summary statistics

In this section, tables are presented to show the caseload of appellate courts in 1981. Appellate courts are subdivided into courts of last resort (the final court of appeal within a particular state) and intermediate appellate courts (courts whose primary work is the disposition of initial appeals received from trial courts of general jurisdiction or administrative agencies, and whose decisions are usually subject to appeal or review by a court of last resort). For purposes of data presentation, in some tables, the courts of last resort have been divided further into courts of last resort in states with intermediate appellate courts and courts of last resort in states without intermediate appellate courts.

Data presented in the following tables are compiled from all data that are available, both in annual reports and in unpublished data provided by individual appellate court clerks and state court administrators.

Three factors restrict comparability from state to state of these appellate court caseload data. These are variations in court jurisdiction, variations in case classification, and variations in the way cases are counted.

Major variation from state to state in court jurisdiction among appellate courts results from the kind and amount of discretionary jurisdiction over initial appeals granted to courts of last resort and to intermediate appellate courts. States having both levels of appellate courts generally direct the more difficult appeals to the court of last resort, but these are not necessarily the same types of cases in every state. Similarly, trial courts of general jurisdiction in some states have incidental appellate jurisdiction. These courts may receive a large portion of the initial appeals, while other states that do not assign appellate jurisdiction to general jurisdiction courts will have all of their appeals heard in the appellate courts. In these states, the appellate courts will have a much higher filing rate, but not necessarily more workload than in those states where appeals are heard in general jurisdiction courts. Another variation in appellate court jurisdiction is in the amount of discretion in jurisdiction granted to the court.

The second major variation in appellate court data arises in the classification of cases. Some courts report only total filings with no indication as to the types of cases included or the proportion of the caseload each type accounts for. Other courts report only what they have designated as appeals. Still other courts classify all types of cases by case category. Often definitions are not given for the case categories. The types of cases classified as appeals present a difficult problem. Requests for bail pending appeal, requests for delayed appeal,

and petitions to stay the lower court ruling pending appeal generally are not considered appeals, but are counted as such in some courts. The appeals caseload will be inflated in these states. Comparison of appellate caseload is difficult because of these kinds of variations in the classification of the cases being counted.

The final variation in appellate court case data results from differences in the point at which cases are counted, and how they are counted. Some courts count cases as soon as the notice of appeal is filed while others count them at a later event, such as the filing of the record or the filing of the appellant's brief. Courts may inflate or deflate their caseload by the way they count appeals of criminal convictions for two or more defendants, by whether cross appeals are counted as separate cases, and by the way they count appeals granted through discretionary jurisdiction. Courts with discretionary jurisdiction sometimes report the total number of cases filed without distinguishing between mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction cases; or they separate mandatory and discretionary cases filed but do not indicate the number of requests for discretionary review granted; or they provide separate data for mandatory cases, discretionary jurisdiction granted, and discretionary jurisdiction denied; or they combine mandatory jurisdiction cases and cases accepted for review, but report separately the total number of petitions for review filed, resulting in double counting of granted petitions for review.

In trying to deal with these many variations in case data, the Court Statistics and Information Management Project has presented as much information as possible about the caseload. The jurisdiction of each court is outlined briefly in the court system chart for each state located in Part II of this report. Because the deciding of appeals is the primary function of the appellate courts, data on appeals should be separated from data on procedural matters. The significant differences in the definition and classification of cases in appellate courts have led the CSIM staff to define appellate caseload to include as 'cases' any appeal, any original proceeding, any request to appeal, or any sentence review only case.

The appellate tables that follow (Numbers 1 through 11) are sequenced from the presentation of general data to more specific analytical tables. The tables present general caseload, various analyses of caseload, civil and criminal break-downs, and time-to-disposition of appeals. The last table (Table 11) presents a 7-year trend in filings for those states reporting total case data for 5 or more years.

**TABLE 1: Reported and estimated national caseload for courts of last resort, intermediate appellate courts, and all appellate courts, 1981.**

Variations in court organization:

All 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico have courts of last resort. Oklahoma and Texas have two courts of last resort, one that hears civil cases and one that hears criminal cases.

Thirty-two states have intermediate appellate courts. Four of these states have two intermediate appellate courts.

Variations in subject matter jurisdiction:

Courts of last resort in states with intermediate appellate courts generally have wide discretion in setting their agenda. Most appeals are heard as a matter of right by intermediate appellate courts and by courts of last resort in states without intermediate appellate courts. (The courts of last resort in Virginia and West Virginia are exceptions.)

Total case figures are not comparable from state to state without considering the mix of mandatory and discretionary appeals heard by each court, and the variety of case types included in the jurisdiction of each court.

Variations in case classification and definitions:

Some states report total cases processed without any indication of case type. Other states include, in their reported caseload, only appeals that were decided on the merits. Some appellate courts include all original proceedings, while others report no original proceedings. Some states do not distinguish between cases and motions or other procedural matters.

This report defines "appellate case" to include any appeal, original proceeding, request to appeal, or sentence review only case.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Reported cases:

The reported cases figures contain the reported cases that were 100% complete with no "j" footnotes. These data can be found in Tables 2, 3, and 4.

Percent of population represented:

State population figures used for all appellate courts and courts of last resort are from the revised 1981 Bureau of Census figures and total 232,668,000 for the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Bureau of Census estimates for the population of the 32 states with intermediate appellate courts in 1981 totaled 199,838,000.

Estimated totals from Appendix A:

These figures represent the estimated data from those states who reported less than complete data. The estimating equations can be found in Appendix A.

Estimated national totals:

Estimated national totals for 1981 are the cumulative totals of all reported data that were complete, plus the estimated data for each state not reporting complete data. This figure for "All appellate courts" is the sum of estimated national totals from "courts of last resort" and "intermediate appellate courts." The procedure used to estimate incomplete or missing data is discussed in Appendix A.

Estimated cases per judge:

This measure is used to indicate the average number of cases filed and disposed for each appellate judge.

There were 971 judges assigned to appellate courts in 1981: 353 in courts of last resort, and 618 in intermediate appellate courts. The estimated national totals in each of the categories were divided by the number of judges serving that level of court.

Estimated cases per 100,000 population:

This measure is used to indicate the frequency with which cases are filed and disposed in appellate courts.

Estimated cases per 100,000 population were calculated by dividing the estimated national totals by the appropriate population figure, 2,326.68 for all appellate courts and for courts of last resort, and 1,998.38 for intermediate appellate courts.

Examples of appropriate uses and techniques:

The estimates of total volume can be compared to the estimates of total volume of cases filed and disposed in trial courts in Table 13 to indicate how frequently cases are appealed to appellate courts. These figures may be compared to the caseload of federal appellate courts to indicate the proportion of appellate cases that are heard in the state court systems.

Limitations on use:

Data have been aggregated in order to make rough estimates of overall national totals, but due to the small sample size this has been done without regard to definitions of case categories and units of count. The national estimates contained in this report should be viewed only as "ball-park" estimates, and not the exact volume of cases in state courts.

TABLE 1:

## Reported and estimated national caseload for courts of last resort, intermediate appellate courts, and all appellate courts, 1981.

*Estimated cases per judge and per 100,000 population.*

Reported and estimated caseload	Filed	Disposed
<b>All appellate courts</b>		
Reported cases .....	123,767	120,805
Number of states reporting complete data .....	40	39
Percent of population represented by complete data ....	66%	65%
Estimated national totals .....	191,000	185,000
<b>Courts of last resort</b>		
Reported cases .....	49,787	49,569
Number of states reporting complete data .....	42	42
Percent of population represented by complete data ....	74%	74%
Estimated totals from Appendix A .....	15,540	16,251
Estimated national totals .....	65,000	66,000
<b>Intermediate appellate courts</b>		
Reported cases .....	96,152	86,824
Number of states reporting complete data .....	26	25
Percent of population represented by complete data ....	71%	69%
Estimated totals from Appendix A .....	30,010	32,373
Estimated national totals .....	126,000	119,000
<b>Estimated cases per judge</b>		
All appellate courts .....	197	191
Courts of last resort .....	184	187
Intermediate appellate courts .....	204	193
<b>Estimated cases per 100,000 population</b>		
All appellate courts .....	82	79
Courts of last resort .....	28	28
Intermediate appellate courts .....	63	59

Note: Reported cases for all appellate courts is less than the sum of reported cases for courts of last resort and intermediate appellate courts due to the fact that states with more than one appellate court had to report complete data for all its appellate courts in order for this table to display total state appellate caseload.

A state with one court reporting complete data, and one court reporting incomplete data will not be reported in "All appellate courts" but will have the complete data from the one court reported in the appropriate section (i.e., either "Courts of last resort" or "Intermediate appellate courts").



TABLE 2: Reported appellate court caseload for all appellate courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization:

Appellate courts are subdivided into courts of last resort (the final court of appeal within a particular state) and intermediate appellate courts. This table combines data for both of these appellate court types into one state figure.

It should also be noted that four states (i.e., Alabama, New York, Pennsylvania and Tennessee) have two intermediate appellate courts, and two states (i.e., Oklahoma and Texas) have two courts of last resort. Two courts at any appellate level indicates specialization of civil and criminal law.

Variations in subject matter jurisdiction:

In some states, trial courts of general jurisdiction have incidental appellate jurisdiction. These courts may receive a large portion of the initial appeals. Other states, however, that do not assign appellate jurisdiction to general jurisdiction courts will have all appeals heard in appellate courts. In these states, the appellate courts might have a much higher filing rate, but not necessarily more workload than those states hearing appeals in general jurisdiction courts.

Sources of data:

All appellate courts reported at least some caseload inventory data for 1981.

Data presented in this and the following tables were compiled from both annual reports and unpublished data provided by individual appellate court clerks and state court administrators. The sources of data for each court are shown in Appendix B.

Reported national totals:

The reported national totals include only data from states reporting complete data in the inventory categories for all appellate courts in the state.

Number of states reporting:

Only those states that reported complete data for all appellate courts are included in this table. The term "state" in this and following tables includes the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Percent of population represented:

State populations used for "all appellate courts" are the revised 1981 Bureau of Census figures and total 232,562,000 for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Appropriate analyses:

Disposed as a percent of filed. This statistic indicates how well all the appellate courts in a state are disposing of cases that are filed. This figure may be somewhat dependent on the number of appellate judges, the number of law clerks and other supporting personnel, the amount of discretionary jurisdiction, and the types of cases that can be appealed. A figure less than 100% indicates that the state appellate courts are not keeping up with their caseload. A statistic greater than 100% indicates that the courts are reducing their pending caseload.

Limitations on use:

Comparisons should not be made among states before checking for similarities and differences among the states in the court system charts in Part II. When comparing the number of appeals filed and disposed among states, also consider the percent of the appeals that are discretionary (i.e., the number of requests to appeal handled by each state); the number of appellate courts in the state; whether there is an intermediate appellate court in the state; and the extent to which some appeals are heard at the trial level.

TABLE 2:

## Reported appellate court caseload for all appellate courts, 1981.

Disposed as a percent of filing. Number of courts of last resort and intermediate appellate courts. Reported national totals with number of states reporting and percent of population represented.

	All appellate courts					Number of courts	
	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a percent of filed	Last resort	Intermediate
Alabama .....	1,352 <sup>i</sup>	2,523 <sup>i</sup>	2,543 <sup>i</sup>	1,332 <sup>i</sup>	101% <sup>i</sup>	1	2
Alaska .....	847	755	863	739	114%	1	1
Arizona .....	1,758	3,579	3,271	2,066	91%	1	1
Arkansas .....	544	1,614	1,549	609	96%	1	1
California .....		19,452	19,439		100%	1	1
Colorado .....	1,610	2,239	2,192	1,657	98%	1	1
Connecticut .....			744 <sup>i</sup>			1	1
Delaware .....	278	337	348	267	103%	1	0
District of Columbia .....	1,256 <sup>i</sup>	1,663	1,313	1,606 <sup>i</sup>	79%	1	0
Florida .....	9,038	15,251	15,198	9,113	100%	1	1
Georgia .....		3,898	3,410 <sup>i</sup>			1	1
Hawaii .....	835	473	603	705	127%	1	1
Idaho .....	620 <sup>i</sup>	435 <sup>i</sup>	363 <sup>i</sup>	712 <sup>i</sup>	83% <sup>i</sup>	1	0
Illinois .....	5,843	8,238	7,951	6,130	97%	1	1
Indiana .....	500	1,807	1,804	503	100%	1	1
Iowa .....	1,168	2,187	2,173	1,247	99%	1	1
Kansas .....	992	1,359	1,378	956	101%	1	1
Kentucky .....	1,437	3,302	3,433	1,306	104%	1	1
Louisiana .....		6,215	5,499		89%	1	1
Maine .....	407	576	608	375	106%	1	0
Maryland .....	431	2,535	2,756	210	109%	1	1
Massachusetts <sup>1</sup> .....						1	1
Michigan .....		8,267	7,710		93%	1	1
Minnesota .....		1,391				1	0
Mississippi .....	429		1,010			1	0
Missouri .....	2,365	3,892	3,482	2,775	90%	1	1
Montana .....		574	515		90%	1	0
Nebraska <sup>1</sup> .....						1	0
Nevada .....	744	719	838	633	117%	1	0
New Hampshire .....	244	482	416	310	86%	1	0
New Jersey .....	5,449 <sup>i</sup>	7,965 <sup>i</sup>	7,264	6,344 <sup>i</sup>		1	1
New Mexico .....		1,115	1,151		103%	1	1
New York .....		14,965 <sup>i</sup>	14,320 <sup>i</sup>		96% <sup>i</sup>	1	2
North Carolina .....		2,682 <sup>i</sup>	2,397 <sup>i</sup>		89% <sup>i</sup>	1	1
North Dakota .....	125	309	280	154	91%	1	0
Ohio .....		10,916	11,322		104%	1	1
Oklahoma <sup>1</sup> .....						2	1
Oregon .....		4,215				1	1
Pennsylvania .....		9,980 <sup>i</sup>				1	2
Puerto Rico .....	359	1,469	1,376	452	94%	1	0
Rhode Island .....	641	643	581	703	90%	1	0
South Carolina .....		1,035	810		78%	1	0
South Dakota .....	290	326	361	262	111%	1	0
Tennessee .....		2,608	2,596		100%	1	2
Texas .....	6,083 <sup>i</sup>	13,565 <sup>i</sup>	10,465 <sup>i</sup>	9,180 <sup>i</sup>	77% <sup>i</sup>	2	1
Utah .....		698	577		83%	1	0
Vermont .....	358	508	459	407	90%	1	0
Virginia .....	1,041	2,257	1,935	1,363	86%	1	0
Washington .....	2,886	3,662	3,306	3,308	90%	1	1
West Virginia .....		1,178	1,178		100%	1	0
Wisconsin .....	1,411	3,216	3,167	1,460	99%	1	1
Wyoming .....	101	198	211	88	107%	1	0
Reported national totals* .....	36,682	125,158	120,923	37,798		54	36
Number of states reporting* .....	27	40	39	26			
Percent of population represented* .....	35%	66%	65%	34%			

**TABLE 2:**  
**Reported appellate court caseload for all appellate courts, 1981. (continued)**

Note: For inclusion on this table, a case is defined as any appeal, original proceeding, request to appeal, or sentence review only case. All available data that are at least 90% complete are entered in the table, and all appropriate calculations are included. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or the calculations are inappropriate. Data from Massachusetts and Nebraska are either totally missing, or substantially incomplete. Since Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period, there are no data available for 1981.

<sup>1</sup>Data are incomplete:

- Alabama--Total state cases do not include petitions disposed of in the clerk's office at the direction of the Court of Criminal Appeals, or original proceedings and requests to appeal from the Court of Civil Appeals.
- Connecticut--Total state disposed figure does not include original proceedings from the Supreme Court.
- District of Columbia--Pending data do not include disciplinary cases.
- Georgia--Total state disposed figure does not include the majority of requests to appeal in the Court of Appeals.
- Idaho--Total state figures do not include requests to appeal in the Supreme Court.
- New Jersey--Supreme Court--Total cases filed and pending do not include all requests to appeal.
- New York--State figures do not include original proceedings in the Court of Appeals, or requests to appeal in the Appellate Divisions of the Supreme Court.

North Carolina--State figures do not include some original proceedings and some requests to appeal in the Supreme Court.

Pennsylvania--State figure does not include original proceedings in the Supreme Court, or requests to appeal and original proceedings in the Superior Court.

Texas--State figures do not include original proceedings from the Courts of Appeals.

\*Reported national totals:

The reported national totals include only data for states reporting data in the caseload category for all courts in the state. Only complete data were included in the national totals. Figures marked with an "i" footnote were not included in the totals.

\*Number of states reporting:

Reported cases for courts of last resort and "all appellate courts" are from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico for which complete data were available. Reported cases for intermediate appellate courts are from the 32 states with intermediate appellate courts.

\*Percent of population represented:

State populations used for courts of last resort and "all appellate courts" are the revised 1981 Bureau of Census estimates and total 232,562,000 for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

TABLE 3: Detailed caseload categories for courts of last resort, 1981.

TABLE 4: Detailed caseload categories for intermediate appellate courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization:

Table 3 contains caseload inventory, by case type, for the courts of last resort in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Table 4 contains caseload inventory, by case type, for the intermediate appellate courts in the 32 states that have intermediate appellate courts.

Variations in subject matter jurisdiction:

Major variation, in subject matter jurisdiction results, from the kind of discretionary jurisdiction granted to courts of last resort and to intermediate appellate courts. States having both levels of appellate courts generally direct the most difficult appeals to the courts of last resort, but these are not necessarily the same types of cases in every state.

Although most courts of last resort have jurisdiction over original proceedings, disciplinary, advisory opinion and request to appeal cases, intermediate appellate courts rarely hear these types of cases.

These variations in jurisdiction make caseload comparisons among appellate courts extremely difficult.

Variations in case classification and definitions:

This report defines "appellate case" to include any appeal, original proceeding, request to appeal, or sentence review only case, and where possible, has placed each state's case data within these case classifications.

Some states report total cases processed without any indication as to the type of proceeding. Other states include in their caseload only appeals that were decided on the merits. Some appellate courts include all

original proceedings, while others report none. Some states do not distinguish cases from procedural matters such as motions for rehearing.

Classification of the same type of proceeding varies from state to state. For example, habeas corpus may be reported as a separate category, or it may be subsumed in appeals, original proceedings, or motions.

Sources of data for each appellate court are found in Appendix B.

Appropriate analyses:

Although these tables are designed primarily to display total caseload data, they may also be used for some analysis. Comparisons may be made between caseload figures of courts of similar type, for example, between the number of mandatory appeals filed in courts of last resort, and those filed in intermediate appellate courts.

Limitations on use:

Comparisons should not be made among states before checking for similarities and differences among the courts in their subject matter jurisdiction. Before total figures are compared, check to be certain that all courts are of the same type and have jurisdiction over and reported data from the same types of cases. Comparisons should not be made between courts of last resort and intermediate appellate courts, or between courts of last resort with and without intermediate appellate courts. Within comparable groups of courts, it may be safer to make comparisons of types of cases than of the total caseload. When comparing the number of appeals filed, disposed, or pending among states, also consider the percent of the appeals that are discretionary (numbers in parentheses) and the number of requests to appeal handled by each state.

**TABLE 3:**

**Detailed caseload categories for courts of last resort, 1981.**

*Appeals, original proceedings, requests to appeal, sentence review only, and total cases. Reported national totals with number of states reporting and percent of population represented.*

State and court title	Begin pending					Filed				
	Appeals	Original proceedings	Requests to appeal	Sentence review only	Total cases	Appeals	Original proceedings	Requests to appeal	Sentence review only	Total cases
Alabama--Supreme Court.....	X	X	X		576	579j ( 59)e		351		1,018 ( 59)e
Alaska--Supreme Court.....	554	8	56	52	670	332	24	120	17	493
Arizona--Supreme Court.....	110	34	37		181	229	307	607		1,143
Arkansas--Supreme Court.....	196	11	NH		207	405	115	NH		520
California--Supreme Court.....						27 (137)e	800 (130)e	3,179		4,006 (267)e
Colorado--Supreme Court.....	X	X	59		471	185	364	417		966
Connecticut--Supreme Court.....	710					637				
Delaware--Supreme Court.....	265	13	NH		278	320	17	NH		337
District of Columbia--Court of Appeals...	X	X	X		1,256f	1,512j	151	(j)		1,663
Florida--Supreme Court.....	X	X	X		742	116	538	802		1,456
Georgia--Supreme Court.....	215j		162		377	499j (199)e		852		1,356 (199)e
Hawaii--Supreme Court.....	601	7			608	332	24			356
Idaho--Supreme Court.....	609	11			620f	361 ( 20)e	74			435f ( 20)e
Illinois--Supreme Court.....	209	23	237		469	93 (150)e	132 ( 9)e	1,419		1,644 (159)e
Indiana--Supreme Court.....	X	X	X		129	X ( 29)e†	X	X		712 ( 34)e†
Iowa--Supreme Court.....	X	X	X	X	1,029	( 28)e	X	X	X	1,733 ( 29)e
Kansas--Supreme Court.....	147j	(j)	12		159	172 ( 15)e	32	188		392 ( 15)e
Kentucky--Supreme Court.....	95	4	258		357	206 (185)e	70	652		928 (185)e
Louisiana--Supreme Court.....						817j (559)e	65†j	2,455		3,337 (559)e
Maine--Supreme Judicial Court.....	365	0	NH	42	407	521	1	NH	54	576
Maryland--Court of Appeals.....	47	0	27		74	27 (129)e	29	628		684 (129)e
Massachusetts--Supreme Judicial Court....	194					769				
Michigan--Supreme Court.....	84	47	1,803		1,934	0 ( 98)e	57	1,892		1,949 ( 98)e
Minnesota--Supreme Court .....						971	116	304		1,391
Mississippi--Supreme Court.....	421	8			429	890				
Missouri--Supreme Court.....	110	X	X		194	331	267	474		1,072
Montana--Supreme Court.....						424j	150	(j)		574
Nebraska--Supreme Court.....	530j	(j)				929j	(j)			
Nevada--Supreme Court.....	X	X	X		744	552	162	5		719
New Hampshire--Supreme Court.....	X	X	X		244	453j	29	(j)		482
New Jersey--Supreme Court.....	131	25				70 (146)e	71			(146)e
New Mexico--Supreme Court.....	X	X	11		165	237 ( 71)e	169	204		610 ( 71)e
New York--Court of Appeals.....						708 ( 92)e	X	2,619		3,327f ( 92)e
North Carolina--Supreme Court.....	3j					131 ( 94)e	2 ( 0)e	475†		608† ( 94)e
North Dakota--Supreme Court.....	125	0	0		125	284	25	0		309
Ohio--Supreme Court.....						165 (133)e	204	1,632		2,001 (133)e
Oregon--Supreme Court.....			86			24 (105)e	240	548		812 (105)e
Pennsylvania--Supreme Court.....						246 (118)e	X	888		1,134† (118)e
Puerto Rico--Supreme Court.....	126	19	214		359	344	40	1,085		1,469
Rhode Island--Supreme Court.....	543	14	84		641	438	71	134		643
South Carolina--Supreme Court.....						1,017	18			1,035
South Dakota--Supreme Court.....	X	X	X		290	273	26	27		326
Tennessee--Supreme Court.....						124 ( 78)e	NH	761		885 ( 78)e
Texas--STATE TOTAL.....	4,053	0	358		4,411	2,354 (267)e	8 (13)e	3,389		5,751 (280)e
Supreme Court.....	42	0	190	NH	232	25 ( 83)e	8 (13)e	991		1,024 ( 96)e
Court of Criminal Appeals.....	4,011	NH	168		4,179	2,329 (184)e	NH	2,398		4,727 (184)e
Utah--Supreme Court.....						664	34			698
Vermont--Supreme Court.....	355	3			358	478	30			508
Virginia--Supreme Court.....	263	119	659		1,041	0 (229)e	X	X		2,257 (229)e
Washington--Supreme Court.....	132	21	123		276	155	73	635		863
West Virginia--Supreme Court of Appeals..						0 (277)e	647	531		1,178 (277)e
Wisconsin--Supreme Court.....	96	40	141		277	0 (157)e	87	650		737 (157)e
Wyoming--Supreme Court.....	98	3	NH		101	186	12	NH		198

Disposed					End pending				
Appeals	Original proceedings	Requests to appeal	Sentence review only	Total cases	Appeals	Original proceedings	Requests to appeal	Sentence review only	Total cases
784j		272 ( 59)e		1,087 ( 59)e	0	0	0		507
507	22	148	68	745	379	10	28	1	418
254	302	577		1,133	85	39	67		191
468	108	NH		576	133	18	NH		151
100	695	2,912 (267)e		3,707 (267)e					
X	X	447		979	X	34	69		458
485		106		591 <sup>i</sup>	862				
330	18	NH		348	255	12	NH		267
1,235j		(j)		1,313	X	X	X		1,606 <sup>i</sup>
226	531	784		1,541	X	X	X		664
773j	(j)	652 (199)e		1,430 (199)e	140j	(j)	163		303
373	24			397	560	7			567
295	68	( 20)e		363 <sup>i</sup> ( 20)e	695	17			712 <sup>i</sup>
216	133 ( 9)e <sup>1</sup>	1,269 (150)e		1,618 (159)e	236	22	237		495
292	50	353 ( 34)e		695 ( 34)e	X	X	X		146
1,438	7	198 ( 29)e	19	1,662 ( 29)e	X	X	X	X	1,165
252j	(j)	164 ( 15)e		416 ( 15)e	99j	(j)	19		118
399	62	585 (185)e		1,046 (185)e	87	12	140		239
1,180j	26 <sup>fj</sup>	1,784 (559)e		2,990 (559)e	337	0	NH	38	375
549	1	NH	58	608					
152	29	526 (129)e		707 (129)e	51	0	0		51
720					175				
X	X	1,342 ( 98)e		1,713 ( 98)e					
	114	307							
775	235			1,010	536				536 <sup>i</sup>
198	240	453		891	243	X	X		375
X	X			515					
786j	(j)				673j	(j)			
X	X	X		838	X	X	X		633
398j	18	(j)		416	X	X	X		310
216	68	963 (146)e		1,247 (146)e	131	28			181
X	X	136 ( 71)e		594 ( 71)e	X	X	8		
706		2,465 ( 92)e		3,171 <sup>i</sup> ( 92)e					
195j	X	539 <sup>i</sup> ( 94)e		734 <sup>i</sup> ( 94)e	36j	X			
255	25	0		280	154	0	0		154
258	186	1,454 (133)e		1,898 (133)e	X	X	71		
X	X	468 (105)e		(105)e					
X	X	X (118)e		X (118)e					
300	38	1,038		1,376	170	21	261		452
386	68	127		581	595	17	91		703
				810					
314	25	22		361	X	X	X		262
243	NH	683 ( 78)e		926 ( 78)e					
1,156	20 <sup>i</sup>	2,923 (283)e		7,099 (283)e	2,519	0	541		3,060
102	20 <sup>i</sup>	879 ( 99)e		1,001 ( 99)e	49	0	203		252
1,054	NH	2,044 (184)e		6,098 (184)e	2,470	NH	338		2,808
X	X			577					
431	28			459	402	5			407
130	321	1,385 (229)e		1,935 (229)e					1,363
277	78	622		830	143	20	145		308
162	647	254 (277)e		1,178 (277)e					
199	94	560 (157)e		816 (157)e	91	33	74		198
	12	NH		211	85	3	NH		88

Note: For inclusion on this table, a case is defined as any appeal, original proceeding, request to appeal, or sentence review only case. All available data are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable, or less than 90% complete.

NH = This case type is not handled in this court.  
X = The data for this case type are known to be included in the total, but are unavailable by category.

<sup>e</sup>Cases are not included in the total to avoid double counting:  
A request to appeal granted is not counted as a disposed request to appeal or as a filed appeal. It is counted as a disposition only when the resulting appeal is disposed. The numbers of requests to appeal granted are the figures appearing in parentheses. These numbers are not included in any of the calculations.

<sup>f</sup>Data are incomplete:  
Connecticut--Total cases disposed do not include original proceedings.  
District of Columbia--Total pending cases do not include disciplinary cases.  
Idaho--Total cases do not include requests to appeal.  
Indiana-- Requests to appeal granted do not include criminal petitions to transfer.  
Louisiana-- Original proceedings do not include all original jurisdiction cases.  
Mississippi--Total cases end pending do not include original proceedings.  
New York--Total cases do not include original proceedings.  
North Carolina-- Requests to appeal and total cases do not include substantial constitutional questions.  
Pennsylvania--Total appeals do not include original proceedings.  
Texas--Supreme Court-- Original proceedings disposed do not include disciplinary cases.

<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:  
District of Columbia--Total filed and disposed appeals include requests to appeal.  
Georgia--Total appeals data include disciplinary cases.  
Kansas--Total pending and disposed appeals include original proceedings.  
Louisiana--Totals appeals include some original jurisdiction cases. Original proceedings include some nondisciplinary bar matters.  
Montana--Total appeals filed include requests to appeal.  
Nebraska--Total appeals include original proceedings.  
New Hampshire--Total appeals include requests to appeal.  
North Carolina--Total pending and disposed appeals include disciplinary cases.

**TABLE 4:**  
**Detailed caseload categories for intermediate appellate courts, 1981.**  
*Appeals, original proceedings, requests to appeal, and total cases. Reported national totals with number of states reporting and percent of population represented.*

State and court title	Begin pending			Filed			Disposed			End pending		
	Appeals	Original proceedings	Requests to appeal	Total Cases	Appeals	Original proceedings	Requests to appeal	Total Cases	Appeals	Original proceedings	Requests to appeal	Total Cases
Alabama--STATE TOTAL.....	239 <sup>i</sup>				475 <sup>i</sup>				474 <sup>i</sup>			
Court of Civil Appeals.....	X	NH	X	537 <sup>i</sup>	X	NH	X	1,030 <sup>i</sup>	X	NH	X	982 <sup>i</sup>
Court of Criminal Appeals.....	139	0	2	177	165	5	56	262	49	4	40	118
Alaska--Court of Appeals.....	1,530	47	NH	1,577	2,207	229	NH	2,436	1,913	225	NH	2,138
Arizona--Court of Appeals.....	334	3	NH	337	1,005	89	NH	1,094	886	87	NH	973
Arkansas--Court of Appeals.....	7,462	NH	NH	1,139	9,196 <sup>i</sup>	5,776 <sup>i</sup>	NH	15,446	9,997	5,735	NH	15,732
California--Courts of Appeal.....					1,226	NH		1,273		NH		1,213
Colorado--Court of Appeals.....												
Connecticut--Appellate Session of Superior Court.....	108	NH	NH	108	142	NH	NH	142	153	NH	NH	153
Florida--District Courts of Appeal.....	0	0	0	0	11,610	1,694	491	13,795	11,741	1,411	505	13,657
Georgia--Court of Appeals.....												
Hawaii--Intermediate Court of Appeals.....	227	NH	NH	227	117	NH	NH	117	206	NH	NH	206
Illinois--Appellate Court.....	5,374	NH	NH	5,374	6,594	NH	NH	6,594	6,333	NH	NH	6,333
Indiana--Court of Appeals.....	371	NH	NH	371	1,095	NH	NH	1,095	1,109	NH	NH	1,109
Iowa--Court of Appeals.....	139j	NH	NH	139	454j	NH	NH	454	490	NH	NH	490
Kansas--Court of Appeals.....	833j	(j)		833	961	6		967	962j	(j)		962
Kentucky--Court of Appeals.....	1,056	19	5	1,080	2,156	166	52	2,374	2,181	156	50	2,387
Louisiana--Courts of Appeal.....	X	X		1,371	2,426	452		2,878	2,063	446		2,509
Maryland--Court of Special Appeals.....	357	0	0	357	1,715(10)e	136	136	1,851(10)e	1,923	126(10)e	0	2,049(10)e
Massachusetts--Appeals Court.....	728				1,269			1,510	1,150			847
Michigan--Court of Appeals.....	2,131	X	X	2,171	2,427	392	1	2,820	2,190	X	X	2,591
Missouri--Court of Appeals.....	5,033	49	5,082	5,813	458	1,025	47	6,838	5,001	1,016	58	6,017
New Jersey--Appellate Division of Superior Court.....									510	NH	47	557
New Mexico--Court of Appeals.....												
New York--STATE TOTAL.....	11,638j	(j)			11,638j	(j)			11,011j	138 <sup>i</sup>		
Appellate Divisions of the Supreme Court.....	9,338j	(j)			9,338j	(j)			9,255j	138 <sup>i</sup>		
Appellate Terms of the Supreme Court.....	2,300	NH	NH	2,300	2,300	NH	NH	2,300	1,756	NH	NH	1,756
North Carolina--Court of Appeals.....	1,435(113)e	0	639	2,074(113)e	1,435(113)e	0	639	2,074(113)e	1,375j	(j)	525(113)e	1,663(113)e
Ohio--Court of Appeals.....	5,200 <sup>i</sup>	273j	NH	5,473	8,351 <sup>i</sup>	564j	NH	8,915	8,560 <sup>i</sup>	864j	NH	9,424
Oregon--Court of Appeals.....	1,659	NH	NH	1,659	3,403	NH	NH	3,403	3,239	NH	NH	3,239
Pennsylvania--STATE TOTAL.....					8,109	737 <sup>i</sup>						
Superior Court.....					3,072	737		3,809	2,986			
Commonwealth Court.....												
Tennessee--STATE TOTAL.....	1,667	NH	X	1,723	1,667	NH	X	1,670	X	NH	X	1,670
Court of Appeals.....	X	NH	X	884	X	NH	X	904	X	NH	X	904
Court of Criminal Appeals.....	783	NH	56	839	783	NH	56	839	3,366	NH	766	3,366 <sup>i</sup>
Texas--Courts of Appeals.....	1,672	133	73	1,672 <sup>i</sup>	7,814	264	194	7,814 <sup>i</sup>	3,366	279	156	6,120 <sup>i</sup>
Washington--Court of Appeals.....	2,404	28	10	2,410	2,341	274	231	2,799	2,041	281	230	2,763
Wisconsin--Court of Appeals.....	1,096			1,134	1,974			2,479	1,840			2,351

proceeding, request to appeal or sentence review only case. Total cases include sentence review only cases. All available data are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable, or less than 90% complete. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period, therefore, data are not reported for 1981.

MH = This case type is not handled in this court.

X = The data for this case type are known to be included in the total but are not available by category.

eCases not included in the total to avoid double counting:

A request to appeal granted is not counted as a disposed request to appeal or as a filed appeal. It is counted as a disposition only when the resulting appeal is disposed.

The numbers of requests to appeal granted are the numbers appearing in parentheses in the table. These numbers are not included in the calculated national totals.

data are incomplete:

Alabama--Court of Criminal Appeals--Total cases do not include petitions disposed of in the clerk's office at the direction of the Court.  
California-- Appeals and original proceedings filed do not include 474 unclassified cases.

New York--Appellate Divisions of the Supreme Court--Some disposed original proceedings are included in the disposed appeals data.

Ohio-- Appeals do not include appeals from administrative agency cases.

Texas--Total cases do not include original proceedings.

Explanation of data included in the category:

Iowa--Pending and filed data include sentence review only cases.

Kansas--Pending and disposed data include original proceedings.

New York--Appellate Divisions of the Supreme Court-- Appeals filed and disposed include some original proceedings cases.

North Carolina-- Appeals disposed include original proceedings.

Ohio-- Original proceedings include appeals from administrative agency cases.



TABLE 5: Caseload for appeals and requests to appeal (civil and criminal) and total cases for courts of last resort, 1981.

TABLE 6: Caseload for appeals and requests to appeal (civil and criminal) and total cases for intermediate appellate courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization:

Tables 5 and 6 display a portion of the data displayed in Tables 3 and 4, and the same variations in court organization apply.

Variations in subject matter jurisdiction:

Tables 5 and 6 display a portion of the data displayed in Tables 3 and 4, and the same variations in subject matter jurisdiction apply.

Variations in case classifications and definitions:

The total cases column in Tables 5 and 6 is the same as in Tables 3 and 4, and includes all appeals, original jurisdiction cases, requests to appeal, and sentence review only cases. Only two case types--appeals and requests to appeal--are displayed in Tables 5 and 6, both separated, where data are available, into civil and criminal categories.

These tables indicate that a significant minority of states fail to break down appeals into even the most general case types--civil and criminal.

The sum of civil and criminal cases may not add up to the figures shown for appeals and requests to appeal in Tables 3 and 4 because other types of appeals and requests to appeal may be included in the total cases.

The types of cases classified as appeals present a particular problem. Matters such as requests for bail pending appeal, requests for delayed appeal, and petitions to stay the lower court ruling pending appeal generally are not considered appeals, but are counted as such in some courts, inflating the appellate caseload in those states.

Courts with discretionary jurisdiction sometimes report the total number of cases filed without distinguishing between mandatory and discretionary cases; or they separate mandatory and discretionary cases filed but do not indicate the number of requests for discretionary review

granted. Some provide separate data for mandatory cases, discretionary review granted, and discretionary review denied, while others combine mandatory cases and cases accepted for review, but report separately the number of petitions for review filed, resulting in double counting of granted petitions for review.

Sources of data for each appellate court are found in Appendix B.

Appropriate analyses:

Although these tables are designed primarily to display the breakdown of appellate caseloads into the civil and criminal case types, they may also be used for some analysis. The ratio of civil to criminal appeals may be calculated for any court. These ratios may be compared among courts of similar types. The ratio of civil appeals to civil requests to appeal may be calculated and compared to the ratio of criminal appeals to criminal requests to appeal.

Limitations on use:

Although cases are identified as being civil or criminal on this table, the definitions used by the courts to make this distinction may differ. One court may include juvenile appeals and appeals of administrative agency cases in its civil appeal category. Other courts may report these cases in three separate categories, as recommended in the Model Statistical Dictionary. Before comparisons are made, one should check each court profile to determine whether there is any indication of the types of cases included in the civil or criminal category.

For those courts that report non-civil and criminal cases in separate categories and for those that have jurisdiction over original proceedings in addition to the appeals and request to appeal cases reported here, the sum of the figures reported for any case category on the table will be less than the total cases figure reported for that case category.

**TABLE 5:**  
**Caseload for appeals and requests to appeal (civil and criminal) and total cases for courts of last resort, 1981.**

	Begin pending					Filed				
	Appeals		Requests to appeal		Total cases	Appeals		Requests to appeal		Total cases
	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal		Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	
Alaska--Supreme Court .....	332 <sup>j</sup>	222 <sup>j</sup>			670	301 <sup>j</sup>	31 <sup>j</sup>			493
Arizona--Supreme Court .....	16	66	NH	NH	181	37	73	268	228	1,143
Arkansas--Supreme Court .....	89	98	NH	NH	207	268	117	NH	NH	520
California--Supreme Court .....						0 ( 69) <sup>e</sup>	27 ( 68) <sup>e</sup>	1,582	1,597	4,006 (267) <sup>f</sup>
Colorado--Supreme Court .....	X	X	X	X	471	47 <sup>j</sup>	89	X	X	966
Connecticut--Supreme Court .....	507	203				504	133			
Delaware--Supreme Court .....	134	131	NH	NH	278	190	130	NH	NH	337
District of Columbia--Court of Appeals .....	X	X	X	X	1,256 <sup>1</sup>	537 <sup>j</sup>	773 <sup>j</sup>	(j)	(j)	1,663
Hawaii--Supreme Court .....	360	241			608	162	170			356
Idaho--Supreme Court .....	368	159			620 <sup>1</sup>	204	116			435 <sup>1</sup> ( 20) <sup>f</sup>
Illinois--Supreme Court .....	89	57	122	115	469	3 ( 77) <sup>e</sup>	13 ( 73) <sup>e</sup>	699	720	1,644 (159) <sup>f</sup>
Indiana--Supreme Court .....	X	X	0	X	129	X ( 29) <sup>e</sup>	X	294	X	712 ( 34) <sup>f</sup>
Iowa--Supreme Court .....	X	X	X	X	1,029	X ( 25) <sup>e</sup>	X ( 3) <sup>e</sup>	X	X	1,733 ( 29) <sup>f</sup>
Maine--Supreme Judicial Court ..	288 <sup>j</sup>	77	NH	NH	407	384 <sup>j</sup>	137	NH	NH	576
Maryland--Court of Appeals .....	24	23	0	0	74	5 ( 79) <sup>e</sup>	20 ( 50) <sup>e</sup>			684 (129) <sup>f</sup>
Minnesota--Supreme Court .....						708	263			1,391
Mississippi--Supreme Court .....	X	X			429	575 <sup>1</sup>	304 <sup>1</sup>			
Missouri--Supreme Court .....	X	X	X	X	194	212	119	X	X	1,072
Montana--Supreme Court .....						348 <sup>j</sup>	76 <sup>j</sup>	(j)	(j)	574
Nebraska--Supreme Court .....						447 <sup>1</sup>	369 <sup>1</sup>			
Nevada--Supreme Court .....	X	X			744	336	197			719
New Hampshire--Supreme Court ...	X	X	X	X	244	309 <sup>j</sup>	97 <sup>j</sup>	(j)	(j)	482
New Jersey--Supreme Court .....										
New Mexico--Supreme Court .....	X	X	X	X	165	219	18	X	X	610 ( 71) <sup>f</sup>
New York--Court of Appeals .....						X ( X) <sup>e</sup>	X ( 92) <sup>e</sup>	824	1,795	3,327 <sup>1</sup> ( 92) <sup>f</sup>
North Carolina--Supreme Court ..						34 ( 72) <sup>e</sup>	97 ( 22) <sup>e</sup>	233 <sup>1</sup>	232 <sup>1</sup>	608 <sup>1</sup> ( 94) <sup>f</sup>
North Dakota--Supreme Court .....	X	X			125	233	51			309
Puerto Rico--Supreme Court .....	13	73	X	X	359	46	102	X	X	1,469
Rhode Island--Supreme Court ....	355	151	X	X	641	309	96	X	X	643
South Carolina--Supreme Court ..						622	275			1,035
Texas--STATE TOTAL .....	42 <sup>j</sup>	4,011	190 <sup>j</sup>	168	4,411	25 <sup>j</sup> ( 83) <sup>e</sup>	2,329 (184) <sup>e</sup>	991 <sup>j</sup>	2,398	5,751 (280) <sup>f</sup>
Supreme Court .....	42 <sup>j</sup>	NH	190 <sup>j</sup>	NH	232	25 <sup>j</sup> ( 83) <sup>e</sup>	NH	991 <sup>j</sup>	NH	1,024 ( 96) <sup>f</sup>
Court of Criminal Appeals ....	NH	4,011	NH	168	4,179	NH	2,329 (184) <sup>e</sup>	NH	2,398	4,727 (184) <sup>f</sup>
Utah--Supreme Court .....						398	121			698
Vermont--Supreme Court .....	X	X			358	339	126			508
Virginia--Supreme Court .....	X	X	308	329	1,041	0 (167) <sup>e</sup>	0 ( 60) <sup>e</sup>	X	X	2,257 (229) <sup>f</sup>
Washington--Supreme Court .....	83	49	54	36	276	120	35	208	205	863
Wisconsin--Supreme Court .....	60	36	97	44	277	0 (118) <sup>e</sup>	0 ( 39) <sup>e</sup>	484	166	737 (157) <sup>f</sup>
Wyoming--Supreme Court .....	73	25	NH	NH	101	140	46	NH	NH	198

Note: For inclusion on this table, a case is defined as any appeal, original proceeding, request to appeal, or sentence review only case. Total cases pending, filed, and disposed include original proceedings and sentence review only, as well as all appeals and all requests to appeal. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable, or less than 90% complete. Courts of last resort in the following states are excluded from this table due to their failure to categorize appeals and requests to appeal by civil and criminal cases, or

because their data are substantially incomplete: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee and West Virginia. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period, therefore it did not report data for 1981.

NH = This case type is not handled in this court.  
X = The data for this case type are known to be included in the total, but are unavailable by category.

<sup>e</sup>Cases are not included in the total to avoid double counting: A request to appeal granted is not counted as a disposed request to appeal or as a filed appeal. It is counted as a disposition only when the resulting appeal is disposed. The numbers of requests to appeal granted are the figures appearing in parentheses in this table.

<sup>1</sup>Data are incomplete: Connecticut--Total cases disposed do not include original proceedings. District of Columbia--Total pending data do not include disciplinary cases.

Disposed					End pending					
Appeals		Requests to appeal			Total cases	Appeals		Requests to appeal		Total cases
vll	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil		Criminal	Civil	Criminal		
267 <sup>J</sup>	240 <sup>J</sup>				745	366 <sup>J</sup>	13 <sup>J</sup>			418
35	89	NH	NH		1,133	18	50	NH	NH	191
266	174	NH	NH		576	91	41	NH	NH	151
78	22	1,425 (157) <sup>e</sup>	1,487 (110) <sup>e</sup>		3,707 (267) <sup>e</sup>					
X	X	X	X		979	X	X	X	X	458
401	84	X	X		591 <sup>f</sup>	610	252			
214	116	NH	NH		348	110	145	NH	NH	267
X	X	X	X		1,313	X	X	X	X	1,606 <sup>f</sup>
192	181				397	330	230			567
156	76				363 <sup>f</sup> (20) <sup>e</sup>	416	199			712 <sup>f</sup>
102	35	628 (77) <sup>e</sup>	641 (73) <sup>e</sup>		1,618 (159) <sup>e</sup>	67	108	116	121	495
X	X	260 (34) <sup>e</sup>	93 ( ) <sup>e</sup>		695 (34) <sup>e</sup>	X	X	0	X	146
840	554	133 (26) <sup>e</sup>	65 (3) <sup>e</sup>		1,662 (29) <sup>e</sup>	X	X	X	X	1,165
246	147	NH	NH		608	270 <sup>J</sup>	67	NH	NH	375
75	75	231 (79) <sup>e</sup>	295 (50) <sup>e</sup>		707 (129) <sup>e</sup>	33	18	0	0	51
746	189									
130	68	X	X		1,010	X	X	X	X	536 <sup>f</sup>
X	X	X	X		891	X	X			375
335 <sup>f</sup>	354 <sup>f</sup>				515					
X	X				838	X	X			633
X	X	X	X		416	X	X	X	X	310
89	39	X	X		1,247 (146) <sup>e</sup>	X	X	X	X	181
X	X	X	X		594 (71) <sup>e</sup>					
529	177	771	1,694 (92) <sup>e</sup>		3,171 <sup>f</sup> (92) <sup>e</sup>					
X	X	X (72) <sup>e</sup>	X (22) <sup>e</sup>		734 <sup>f</sup> (94) <sup>e</sup>	X	X			154
210	45				280	19	97	X	X	452
40	78	X	X		1,376					
253	117	X	X		581	411	130	X	X	703
102 <sup>J</sup>	4,054	879 <sup>J</sup> (99) <sup>e</sup>	2,044 (184) <sup>e</sup>		810	49 <sup>J</sup>	2,470	203 <sup>J</sup>	338	3,060
102 <sup>J</sup>	NH	879 <sup>J</sup> (99) <sup>e</sup>	NH		7,099 (283) <sup>e</sup>	49 <sup>J</sup>	NH	203 <sup>J</sup>	NH	252
NH	4,054	NH	2,044 (184) <sup>e</sup>		1,001 (99) <sup>e</sup>	NH	2,470	NH	338	2,808
X	X				6,098 (184) <sup>e</sup>					
					577					
324	92				459	X	X			407
X	X	398 (167) <sup>e</sup>	832 (60) <sup>e</sup>		1,935 (229) <sup>e</sup>	X	X	X	X	1,363
91	39	225	202		830	109	34	56	37	308
112	50	415 (118) <sup>e</sup>	145 (39) <sup>e</sup>		816 (157)	66	25	48	26	198
157	42	NH	NH		211	56	29	NH	NH	88

aho--Total cases do not include a small number of requests to appeal.  
diana--Total requests to appeal granted do not include criminal petitions.  
ssissippi--Civil and criminal appeals filed do not include 11 unspecified cases. Total cases and pending data do not include original proceedings.  
braska--Filed and disposed civil and criminal appeals do not include a small number of unclassified cases.  
w York--Total cases filed and disposed do not include original proceedings.

North Carolina--Civil and criminal requests to appeal filed do not include substantial constitutional questions. Total cases filed and disposed do not include most original proceedings and substantial constitutional questions.

JExplanation of data included in the category:  
Alaska--Civil and criminal appeals include juvenile appeals.  
Colorado--Civil appeals filed include some appeal of administrative agency cases.

District of Columbia--Civil and criminal appeals filed include requests to appeal.  
Maine--Filed and pending civil appeals include some appeal of administrative agency cases.  
Montana--Filed civil and criminal appeals include requests to appeal.  
New Hampshire--Filed civil and criminal appeals include requests to appeal.  
Texas--Supreme Court--Appeals and requests to appeal cases include juvenile cases.

**TABLE 6:**  
**Caseload for appeals and requests to appeal (civil and criminal) and total cases for intermediate appellate courts, 1981.**

State and court title	Begin pending			Filed			Disposed			End pending		
	Requests to appeal			Requests to appeal			Requests to appeal			Requests to appeal		
	Civil	Criminal	Total	Civil	Criminal	Total	Civil	Criminal	Total	Civil	Criminal	Total
Alabama--STATE TOTAL.....	239	X	776 <sup>1</sup>	475	X	1,505 <sup>1</sup>	474	X	1,456 <sup>1</sup>	240	X	825 <sup>1</sup>
Court of Civil Appeals.....	239	NH	239 <sup>1</sup>	475	NH	475 <sup>1</sup>	474	NH	474 <sup>1</sup>	240	NH	240 <sup>1</sup>
Court of Criminal Appeals.....	NH	X	537 <sup>1</sup>	NH	X	1,030 <sup>1</sup>	NH	X	982 <sup>1</sup>	NH	X	585 <sup>1</sup>
Alaska--Court of Appeals.....	NH	2	177	NH	165	262	NH	49	NH	40	NH	18
Arizona--Court of Appeals.....	746	614	1,577	822	998	2,436	727	814	2,138	841	798	1,875
Arkansas--Court of Appeals.....	294	40	337	832	173	1,094	749	137	973	377	76	458
California--Courts of Appeal.....	3,813	3,649	7,462	4,466 <sup>1</sup>	4,750 <sup>1</sup>	9,216	5,202	4,795	9,997	4,421	3,781	8,202
Colorado--Court of Appeals.....	X	X	1,139	823 <sup>1</sup>	280	1,103	X	X	1,213	X	X	1,199
Connecticut--Appellate Session of the Superior Court.....	77	31	108	102	40	142	116	37	153	63	34	97
Hawaii--Intermediate Court of Appeals.....	208	17	225	76	32	108	158	45	203	126	4	138
Illinois--Appellate Court.....	2,407	2,967	5,374	3,478	3,116	6,594	3,360	2,973	6,333	2,525	3,110	5,635
Indiana--Court of Appeals.....			371	466	562	1,028			1,095			357
Iowa--Court of Appeals.....	93	46 <sup>1</sup>	139	305 <sup>1</sup>	149 <sup>1</sup>	454	296	151	447	50 <sup>1</sup>	32 <sup>1</sup>	82
Kansas--Court of Appeals.....	X	X	833	783	178	961	X	X	962	X	X	838
Kentucky--Court of Appeals.....	764	292	1,056	1,673	483	2,156	1,688	493	2,181	749	282	1,067
Louisiana--Court of Appeal.....	X	NH	1,371	2,426	NH	3,807	2,063	NH	2,509	X	NH	1,740
Maryland--Court of Special Appeals.....	167	177 <sup>1</sup>	344	845	812	1,657	941	915 <sup>1</sup>	1,856	71	84 <sup>1</sup>	159
Missouri--Court of Appeals.....	1,474	657	2,131	1,773	654	2,427	1,627	563	2,190	1,620	748	2,400
New Jersey--Appellate Division of Superior Court.....			5,082	2,428	2,249	4,677			6,017			5,903
New Mexico--Court of Appeals.....			222	219	24	465			557			5,169
Ohio--Court of Appeals.....	3,075	2,125	5,200	5,078	3,273	8,351	5,283	3,277	8,560	2,822	2,103	10,663
Oregon--Court of Appeals.....			1,659	1,081	1,438	2,519			3,239			1,823
Tennessee--STATE TOTAL.....			1,672	2,856	4,938	4,528			7,384			6,120 <sup>1</sup>
Court of Appeals.....	NH	NH	1,672	2,856	4,938	4,528			7,384			6,120 <sup>1</sup>
Court of Criminal Appeals.....			1,394	1,010	943	2,404			2,476			3,000
Texas--Courts of Appeals.....			1,394	1,010	943	2,404			2,476			3,000
Washington--Court of Appeals.....			1,394	1,010	943	2,404			2,476			3,000

Note: For inclusion on this table, a case is defined as any appeal, original proceeding, request to appeal, or sentence review only case.  
 Total cases pending, filed, and disposed include original proceedings and sentence review only cases as well as all appeals and all requests to appeal.  
 Data for intermediate appellate courts from the following states were excluded from this table because they failed to break their appeals and requests to appeal into civil and criminal cases, or the data in the breakdown was substantially incomplete: Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period, therefore, no data are available for 1981.  
 All available data are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable, or less than 90% complete.

Data are incomplete:  
 Alabama--Court of Criminal Appeals--Total cases do not include requests to appeal.  
 --Court of Criminal Appeals--Total cases do not include petitions disposed of in the clerk's office at the direction of the Court.  
 California-- Civil and criminal appeals filed do not include 474 cases which could not be identified by case type.  
 Texas--Total cases do not include original proceedings.  
 --Explanation of data included in the category:  
 Colorado-- Civil appeals filed include some appeals of administrative agency cases.  
 Iowa--Filed and pending criminal appeals include appeals of administrative agency and postconviction remedy cases. Filed and pending criminal appeals include sentence review only cases.  
 Maryland--Filed and pending criminal appeals include postconviction remedy appeals.

NH = This case type is not handled in this court.  
 X = The data for this case type are known to be included in the total but are unavailable.

- TABLE 7: Caseload for courts of last resort in states with intermediate appellate courts, 1981.  
 TABLE 8: Caseload for courts of last resort in states without intermediate appellate courts, 1981.  
 TABLE 9: Caseload for intermediate appellate courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization:

In Tables 7 and 8, the courts of last resort in states with intermediate appellate courts have been separated from the states without intermediate appellate courts, while Tables 7 and 9 together show the total appellate caseload in those states with intermediate appellate courts.

These tables contain the same caseload inventory data that is shown in Table 2, and the same variations in court organization apply to these tables.

Variations in subject matter jurisdiction:

The jurisdiction of each court is outlined briefly in the court system organization chart for each state located in Part II of this report.

Major variation from state to state results from the type of mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction over initial appeals granted to courts of last resort and to intermediate appellate courts. States having both levels of appellate courts generally direct the more difficult appeals to the court of last resort, but these are not necessarily the same types of cases in every state.

In some states trial courts of general jurisdiction have incidental appellate jurisdiction, which may affect the number of appeals filed in the appellate courts.

Variations in case classification and definitions:

Total case figures may not be comparable from state to state.

Some states report total cases processed without any indication as to what types of proceedings are included. Other states include in their caseload only appeals that were decided on the merits. Some appellate courts include all original proceedings, while others report none. Some states do not distinguish appeals and other cases from procedural matters.

Variations in counting cases:

The kind and amount of discretionary jurisdiction granted to courts of last resort and intermediate appellate courts vary from state to state. Courts with discretionary jurisdiction sometimes report the total number of cases filed without distinguishing between mandatory and discretionary cases; or they separate mandatory and discretionary cases filed but do not indicate the number of requests for discretionary review granted. Some provide separate data for mandatory cases, discretionary review granted, and discretionary review denied, while others combine mandatory cases and cases accepted for review, but report separately the number of petitions for review filed, resulting in double counting of granted petitions for review.

Courts may count cases at different stages in proceedings. Some courts count cases when the notice of appeal is filed. Others wait to count cases until they are argued or submitted on briefs. Courts which count cases at stages that occur later in case processing will not count those cases on which a notice of appeal is filed but later the parties decide not to pursue the subsequent stages.

Sources of data for each appellate court are found in Appendix B.

Appropriate analyses:

All percentage calculations that were less than 1% but greater than 0% have been rounded up to 1%. All percentage calculations that were less than 0% but greater than -1% have been rounded to -1%.

Disposed cases as percent of filed. This measure represents the percent of the number of filed cases that the court was able to dispose. The percent is computed by dividing the number of cases filed by the number disposed and then multiplying by one hundred. A percent over one hundred indicates that the court disposed more cases than were filed, thus reducing pending caseload. A percent significantly less than one hundred indicates that the court is not keeping up with the volume of cases being filed.

End pending as percent of filed. This figure gives the percent of the number of filed cases that were pending at the end of the year. This measure is computed by dividing the number of cases pending at the end of the year by the number of cases filed and then multiplying by one hundred. A value of one hundred percent indicates that the number of cases pending at the end of the year was equal to the number of cases filed during the year. A value higher than one hundred percent indicates a pending caseload larger than cases filed, while a value lower than one hundred percent indicates a pending caseload smaller than the number of cases filed.

Number change in pending caseload. This number gives the net increase or decrease in pending caseload for the court year by subtracting the number of cases pending at the beginning of the year from the number of cases pending at the end of the year. An alternative to this calculation, subtracting the number disposed from the number filed, was used when pending data are unavailable or incomplete. When this alternate formula was used, the resulting number was enclosed in parentheses. A positive number indicates that the pending caseload increased during the year while a negative number indicates that the pending caseload was reduced in size. Thus, a large negative change in pending indicates that the court is keeping the caseload current, while a large positive change in pending would indicate that the court has not kept pace with its filings.

Percent change in pending caseload. This percentage indicates the change in pending cases relative to the number of cases pending at the beginning of the year, and is obtained by dividing the number change in pending caseload by the number of cases pending at the beginning of the year and then multiplying by one hundred. (This figure cannot be calculated if the alternative formula described above was used to calculate the number change in the pending caseload.) A high negative percent indicates that the court reduced its pending caseload significantly, while a high positive percent

indicates that the pending caseload increased significantly. This measure was not computed if the number of beginning pending cases was less than ten.

Filed and disposed per judge. These measures are displayed in appellate court tables. If all other factors (court jurisdiction, available law clerks, discretionary jurisdiction, case definition, panels in the court, etc.) are similar, these measures permit comparison of caseload per judge. These statistics were computed by dividing the filed and disposed cases respectively, by the number of appellate judges serving that court.

The necessity for caution when making any comparisons among states must be repeated. This warning holds true especially for comparisons using any of the above measures.

Filed per 100,000 population. The unit of state population used on all court caseload charts is 100,000. This measure compensates for variations in state population and gives a more realistic basis for comparison of caseloads among

states of various sizes. If all other factors (court jurisdiction, discretionary jurisdiction, case definition, etc.) are similar, the filed per 100,000 population statistic permits direct comparisons among states of the number of filed cases.

Limitations on use:

Comparisons should not be made among states before checking for similarities and differences among the states in terms of structure and jurisdiction identified in Part II. Comparisons should not be made between courts of last resort and intermediate appellate courts or between courts of last resort with and without intermediate appellate courts. When comparing states, care must also be taken to insure that state totals are used in those states with more than one court of last resort or intermediate appellate court. When comparing the number of appeals filed, disposed, or pending among states, also consider the percent of the appeals that are discretionary (numbers in parentheses) and the number of requests to appeal handled by each state.

**TABLE 7:**

**Caseload for courts of last resort in states with intermediate appellate courts, 1981.**

State population. Disposed and end pending as a percent of filed. Number and percent change in pending. Filed and disposed per judge. Filed per 100,000 population.

State and court title	State population in thousands	Number of judges	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	As percent of filed		Change in pending		Filed Disposed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
							Dis- posed	End pend- ing	Number	Per- cent		
Alabama--Supreme Court.....	3,917	9	576	1,018 ( 59)e	1,087 ( 59)e	507	107%	50%	-69	-12%	113	26
Alaska--Supreme Court.....	412	5	670	493	745	418	151%	85%	-252	-38%	99	149
Arizona--Supreme Court.....	2,794	5	181	1,143	1,133	191	99%	17%	229	6%	227	41
Arkansas--Supreme Court.....	2,296	7	207	520	576	151	111%	29%	-56	-27%	74	23
California--Supreme Court.....	24,196	7	4,006 (267)e	3,707 (267)e			93%	(299)			572	17
Colorado--Supreme Court.....	2,965	7	471	966	979	458	101%	47%	-13	-3%	138	33
Connecticut--Supreme Court.....	3,134	6			591 <sup>i</sup>						991	(19)
Florida--Supreme Court.....	10,183	7	742	1,456	1,541	664	106%	46%	-78	-11%	208	220
Georgia--Supreme Court.....	5,574	7	377	1,356 (199)e	1,430 (199)e	303	105%	22%	-74	-20%	194	204
Hawaii--Supreme Court.....	981	5	608	356	397	567	112%	159%	-41	-7%	71	79
Illinois--Supreme Court.....	11,462	7	469	1,644 (159)e	1,618 (159)e	495	98%	30%	26	6%	235	231
Indiana--Supreme Court.....	5,468	9	129	712 ( 34)e	695 ( 34)e	146	98%	21%	17	13%	142	13
Iowa--Supreme Court.....	2,899	5	1,029	1,733 ( 29)e	1,662 ( 29)e	1,165	96%	67%	136	13%	193	185
Kansas--Supreme Court.....	2,408	7	159	392 ( 15)e	416 ( 15)e	118	106%	30%	-41	-26%	56	59
Kentucky--Supreme Court.....	3,662	7	357	928 (185)e	1,046 (185)e	239	113%	26%	-118	-33%	133	149
Louisiana--Supreme Court.....	4,308	7		3,337 (559)e	2,990 (559)e		90%		(347)		477	77
Maryland--Court of Appeals.....	4,263	7	74	684 (129)e	707 (129)e	51	103%	7%	-23	-31%	98	101
Michigan--Supreme Court.....	9,204	7	1,934	1,949 ( 98)e	1,713 ( 98)e	2,170	88%	111%	236	12%	278	245
Missouri--Supreme Court.....	4,941	7	194	1,072	891	375	83%	35%	181	93%	153	127
New Jersey--Supreme Court.....	7,404	7			1,247 (146)e						178	(17)
New Mexico--Supreme Court.....	1,328	5	165	610 ( 71)e	594 ( 71)e	181	97%	30%	16	10%	122	119
New York--Court of Appeals.....	17,602	7		3,327 <sup>i</sup> ( 92)e <sup>i</sup>	3,171 <sup>i</sup> ( 92)e <sup>i</sup>		95%		(156)		475 <sup>i</sup>	453 <sup>i</sup>
North Carolina--Supreme Court.....	5,953	7		608 <sup>i</sup> ( 94)e	734 <sup>i</sup> ( 94)e		121%		(-126)		87 <sup>i</sup>	105 <sup>i</sup>
Ohio--Supreme Court.....	10,781	7		2,001 (133)e	1,898 (133)e		95%		(103)		286	271
Oregon--Supreme Court.....	2,651	7		812 (105)e							116	31
Pennsylvania--Supreme Court.....	11,871	7		1,134 <sup>i</sup> (118)e							162 <sup>i</sup>	10 <sup>i</sup>
Tennessee--Supreme Court.....	4,612	5		885 ( 78)e	926 ( 78)e		105%		(-41)		177	185
Texas--STATE TOTAL.....	15,280	18	4,411	5,751 (283)e	7,109 (283)e	3,060	124%	53%	-1,351	-31%	320	395
Supreme Court <sup>k</sup> .....	--	9	232	1,024 ( 99)e	1,001 ( 99)e	252	98%	25%	20	9%	114	111
Court of Criminal Appeals <sup>k</sup> .....	--	9	4,179	4,727 (184)e	6,098 (184)e	2,808	129%	59%	-1,371	-33%	525	678
Washington--Supreme Court.....	4,217	9	276	863	830	308	96%	36%	32	12%	96	92
Wisconsin--Supreme Court.....	4,742	7	277	737 (157)e	816 (157)e	198	111%	27%	-79	-29%	105	117

Note: For inclusion on this table, a case is defined as any appeal, original proceeding, request to appeal, or sentence review only case. All available data are entered in the table and all appropriate calculations are included. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or the calculations are inappropriate. The Massachusetts Court of Last Resort was not included in this table because it had substantially incomplete data. The two courts of last resort in Oklahoma are not included in this table because they changed reporting years during this period, and therefore did not report 1981 data.

-- = Not applicable.  
 eCases are not included in the total to avoid double counting.  
 A request to appeal granted is not counted as a disposed request to appeal or as a filed appeal. It is counted as a disposition only when the resulting

iData are incomplete:  
 Connecticut--Disposed figure does not include original proceedings.  
 New York--The number of civil requests to appeal granted was not known.  
 Filed and disposed figures do not include original proceedings.  
 Pennsylvania--The filed figure does not include original proceedings.  
 North Carolina--Filed and disposed figures do not include most original proceedings and some requests to appeal.  
 kAdditional information:  
 Texas has two courts of last resort. The Supreme Court hears only civil matters. Data from both courts of last resort are included on this table for Texas so that the entire caseload of that level of court can be presented as a unit as it is for every other state.

**TABLE 8:**  
**Caseload for courts of last resort in states without intermediate appellate courts, 1981.**  
*State population. Disposed and end pending as a percent of filed. Number and percent change in pending. Filed and disposed per judge. Filed per 100,000 population.*

State and court title	State population in thousands	Number of judges	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	As percent of filed		Change in pending		Per judge Filed	Per judge Disposed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
							Dis- posed	End pending	Number	Per- cent			
Delaware--Supreme Court.....	598	5	278	337	348	267	103%	79%	-11	-4%	67	70	56
District of Columbia--Court of Appeals.....	631	9	1,256 <sup>f</sup>	1,663	1,313	1,606 <sup>f</sup>	79%		350	28%	185	146	264
Idaho--Supreme Court.....	959	5	620 <sup>f</sup>	435 <sup>f</sup> (20)e	363 <sup>f</sup> (20)e	712 <sup>f</sup>	83% <sup>f</sup>	164% <sup>f</sup>	92 <sup>f</sup>	15% <sup>f</sup>	87	73	45
Maine--Supreme Judicial Court.....	1,133	7	407	576	608	375	106%	65%	-32	-8%	82	87	51
Minnesota--Supreme Court.....	4,094	9	1,391								155		34
Mississippi--Supreme Court.....	2,531	9	429		1,010	536 <sup>f</sup>						112	(40)
Montana--Supreme Court.....	793	5		574	515		90%		(-59)		115	103	72
Nebraska--Supreme Court.....	1,577	7											
Nevada--Supreme Court.....	845	5	744	719	838	633	117%	88%	-111	-15%	144	168	85
New Hampshire--Supreme Court.....	936	5	244	482	416	310	86%	64%	66	27%	96	83	51
North Dakota--Supreme Court.....	658	5	125	309	280	154	91%	50%	29	23%	62	56	47
Puerto Rico--Supreme Court.....	3,197	7	359	1,469	1,376	452	94%	31%	93	26%	210	197	46
Rhode Island--Supreme Court.....	953	5	641	643	581	703	90%	109%	62	10%	129	116	67
South Carolina--Supreme Court.....	3,167	5		1,035	810		78%		(225)		207	162	33
South Dakota--Supreme Court.....	686	5	290	326	361	262	111%	80%	-28	-10%	65	72	48
Utah--Supreme Court.....	1,518	5		698	577		83%		(121)		140	115	46
Vermont--Supreme Court.....	516	5	358	508	459	407	90%	80%	49	14%	102	92	98
Virginia--Supreme Court.....	5,430	7	1,041	2,257 (229)e	1,935 (229)e	1,363	86%	60%	322	31%	322	276	42
West Virginia--Supreme Court of Appeals.....	1,952	5		1,178 (277)e	1,178 (277)e	88	100%		(0)		236	236	60
Wyoming--Supreme Court.....	492	5	101	198	211		107%	44%	-13	-13%	40	42	40

Note: For inclusion on this table, a case is defined as any appeal, original proceeding, request to appeal, or sentence review only case. All available data are entered in the table and all appropriate calculations are included. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or the calculations are inappropriate. -- = Not applicable.

eCases are not included in the total to avoid double counting: A request to appeal granted is not counted as a disposed request to appeal or as a filed appeal. It is counted as a disposition only when the resulting appeal is disposed. The numbers of requests to appeal granted are the numbers appearing in parentheses in the table. These numbers are not included in any of the calculations in the table. Data are incomplete: District of Columbia--Pending figures do not include disciplinary cases. Idaho--Data do not include requests to appeal, which for this state represent only a small percentage of the total caseload. Mississippi--End pending figure does not include original proceedings. Nebraska--State figures do not include requests to appeal, and therefore, are less than 90% complete.



**TABLE 9:**  
**Caseload for intermediate appellate courts, 1981.**  
*State population. Disposed and end pending as a percent of filed. Number and percent change in pending. Filed and disposed per judge. Filed per 100,000 population.*

State and court title	State population in thousands	Number of judges	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	As percent of filed		Change in pending		Per judge Filed/Disposed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
							Dis-posed	End-pend-ing	Number	Per-cent		
Alabama--STATE TOTAL.....	3,917	8	776 <sup>1</sup>	1,505 <sup>1</sup>	1,456 <sup>1</sup>	825 <sup>1</sup>	97% <sup>1</sup>	55% <sup>1</sup>	49 <sup>1</sup>	6% <sup>1</sup>	188 <sup>1</sup>	38 <sup>1</sup>
Court of Civil Appeals.....	--	3	537 <sup>1</sup>	1,030 <sup>1</sup>	982 <sup>1</sup>	585 <sup>1</sup>	95% <sup>1</sup>	57% <sup>1</sup>	48 <sup>1</sup>	9% <sup>1</sup>	196 <sup>1</sup>	26 <sup>1</sup>
Court of Criminal Appeals.....	412	3	177	262	118	321	45% <sup>1</sup>	123% <sup>1</sup>	144	81% <sup>1</sup>	87	64
Arizona--Court of Appeals.....	2,794	12	1,577	2,436	2,138	1,875	88% <sup>1</sup>	77% <sup>1</sup>	298	19% <sup>1</sup>	203	87
Arkansas--Court of Appeals.....	2,296	6	337	1,094	973	458	89% <sup>1</sup>	42% <sup>1</sup>	121	36% <sup>1</sup>	182	48
California--Courts of Appeal.....	24,196	59	15,446	15,732	15,732	15,732	102% <sup>1</sup>	(-286)	262	262	267	64
Colorado--Court of Appeals.....	2,965	10	1,139	1,273	1,213	1,199	95% <sup>1</sup>	94% <sup>1</sup>	60	5% <sup>1</sup>	121	43
Connecticut--Appellate Session of Superior Court.....	3,134	3	108	142	153	97	108% <sup>1</sup>	68% <sup>1</sup>	-11	-10% <sup>1</sup>	47	5
Florida--District Court of Appeal.....	10,183	45	8,296	13,795	13,657	8,449	99% <sup>1</sup>	61% <sup>1</sup>	153	2% <sup>1</sup>	307	135
Georgia--Court of Appeals.....	5,574	9	227	117	206	138	176% <sup>1</sup>	118% <sup>1</sup>	-89	-39% <sup>1</sup>	39	12
Hawaii--Intermediate Court of Appeals.....	981	34	5,374	6,594	6,333	5,635	96% <sup>1</sup>	86% <sup>1</sup>	261	5% <sup>1</sup>	194	58
Illinois--Appellate Court.....	11,462	12	371	1,095	1,109	357	101% <sup>1</sup>	33% <sup>1</sup>	-14	-4% <sup>1</sup>	91	20
Indiana--Court of Appeals.....	5,468	5	139	454	511	82	113% <sup>1</sup>	18% <sup>1</sup>	-57	-41% <sup>1</sup>	91	16
Iowa--Court of Appeals.....	2,899	7	833	967	962	838	100% <sup>1</sup>	87% <sup>1</sup>	5	1% <sup>1</sup>	138	40
Kansas--Court of Appeals.....	2,408	14	1,080	2,374	2,387	1,067	101% <sup>1</sup>	45% <sup>1</sup>	-13	-1% <sup>1</sup>	170	65
Kentucky--Court of Appeals.....	4,308	32	1,371	2,878	2,509	1,740	87% <sup>1</sup>	61% <sup>1</sup>	369	27% <sup>1</sup>	90	67
Louisiana--Courts of Appeals.....	4,263	13	357	1,851 (10)e	2,049 (10)e	159	111% <sup>1</sup>	9% <sup>1</sup>	-198 (321)	-55% <sup>1</sup>	142	43
Maryland--Court of Special Appeals.....	9,204	18	2,171	6,318	5,997	2,400	92% <sup>1</sup>	85% <sup>1</sup>	229	11% <sup>1</sup>	351	69
Michigan--Court of Appeals.....	4,941	30	2,171	2,820	2,591	2,400	92% <sup>1</sup>	85% <sup>1</sup>	229	11% <sup>1</sup>	94	57
Missouri--Court of Appeals.....	7,404	21	5,082	6,838	6,017	5,903	88% <sup>1</sup>	86% <sup>1</sup>	821	16% <sup>1</sup>	326	92
New Jersey--Appellate Division of Superior Court.....	1,328	7	505	505	557		110% <sup>1</sup>		(-52)		72	38
New Mexico--Court of Appeals.....	17,602	33	11,638 <sup>1</sup>	11,149 <sup>1</sup>	11,149 <sup>1</sup>		96% <sup>1</sup>		(489) <sup>1</sup>		353 <sup>1</sup>	66 <sup>1</sup>
New York--STATE TOTAL.....	--	24										
Appellate Divisions of the Supreme Court.....	--	9										
Appellate Terms of the Supreme Court.....	5,953	12	2,300	2,300	1,756	1,756	76% <sup>1</sup>	(544)			256	13
North Carolina--Court of Appeals.....	10,781	52	5,473	2,074 (113)e	1,663 (113)e	5,169	80% <sup>1</sup>	(411)			173	35
Ohio--Court of Appeals.....	2,651	10	1,659	3,403	9,424	1,823	106% <sup>1</sup>	58% <sup>1</sup>	-304	-6% <sup>1</sup>	171	83
Oregon--Court of Appeals.....	11,871	24	8,846 <sup>1</sup>	8,846 <sup>1</sup>	3,239	1,823	95% <sup>1</sup>	54% <sup>1</sup>	164	10% <sup>1</sup>	340	128
Pennsylvania--STATE TOTAL.....	--	15										
Superior Court.....	4,612	12	3,909	1,670	1,670		97% <sup>1</sup>	(53)			423	32
Commonwealth Courts.....	11,262	21	884	904	904		102% <sup>1</sup>	(-20)			82	37
Tennessee--STATE TOTAL.....	--	9										
Court of Appeals.....	15,280	75	1,672 <sup>1</sup>	7,814 <sup>1</sup>	7,666	6,120 <sup>1</sup>	92% <sup>1</sup>	78% <sup>1</sup>	4,448 <sup>1</sup>	266% <sup>1</sup>	93	18
Court of Criminal Appeals.....	4,217	16	2,610	2,476	3,366 <sup>1</sup>	3,000	43% <sup>1</sup>	107% <sup>1</sup>	390	15% <sup>1</sup>	104 <sup>1</sup>	45 <sup>1</sup>
Texas--Court of Appeals.....	4,742	12	1,134	2,479	2,351	1,262	89% <sup>1</sup>	51% <sup>1</sup>	128	11% <sup>1</sup>	175	66
Washington--Court of Appeals.....	--	12					95% <sup>1</sup>				207	195
Wisconsin--Court of Appeals.....	--	9										

Note For inclusion on this table, a case is defined as any appeal, original proceeding, request to appeal, or sentence review only case. All available data are entered in the table and all appropriate calculations are included. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or the calculations are inappropriate. Numbers appearing in parentheses, representing the number of requests to appeal that were granted, are not included in the calculations.

Data from the Massachusetts' Appeals Court are not included in this table because the data are substantially incomplete.

Data from the Oklahoma Court of Appeals are not included in this table because the Court changed reporting years during this period, and therefore did not report data for 1981.

--- = Not applicable.

<sup>a</sup>Court jurisdiction:

The Alaska Court of Appeals has jurisdiction over criminal cases only.  
The Louisiana Courts of Appeal, and Tennessee Court of Appeals have jurisdiction over civil cases only.

In 1981, jurisdiction over criminal appeals was added to the Texas Courts of Appeals.

The Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania handles cases involving officials or officers of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania only.

ecases are not included in the total to avoid double counting:

A request to appeal granted is not counted as a disposed request to appeal or as a filed appeal. It is counted as a disposition only when the resulting appeal is disposed. The numbers of requests to appeal granted are the numbers appearing in parentheses in the table. These numbers are not included in the calculated figures.

Data are incomplete:

Alabama--Court of Criminal Appeals--Figures do not include petitions disposed of in the clerk's office at the direction of the Court.

--Total state cases do not include original proceedings or requests to appeal from the Court of Civil Appeals, and petitions disposed of in the Clerk's office at the direction of the Court of Criminal Appeals.

New York--Total state cases do not include original proceedings or requests to appeal from the appellate divisions of the Supreme Court.

Pennsylvania--Total state cases do not include original proceedings or requests to appeal from the Superior Court.

Texas--Figures do not include original proceedings.

TABLE 10: Time interval (days) data for courts of last resort and intermediate appellate courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization:

Appellate courts in this table have been separated into courts of last resort and intermediate appellate courts. See Table 2 for the number of appellate courts in each state.

Sources of data:

The source of data for individual appellate courts are in Appendix B.

Variations in case classification and definitions:

Data on this table are apparently for appeals decided on the merits after a full review by the court, although this fact is not usually made explicit in the source documents.

Variations in counting cases:

Some courts count cases as soon as the notice of appeal is filed while others count them at a later event, such as at the filing of the record or the filing of the appellant's record. The latter method will exclude those cases that are withdrawn before the counting point from total dispositions.

Appropriate analyses:

Comparison can be made of time to disposition for courts at the same level that use the same event for the start of the time interval. The

time intervals used on this table are designed to divide the entire time a case is pending into the portion of time it is under the control of the court and the portion over which the lawyers have control. Comparisons can be made of the portion of the entire time the case is pending in a particular status with similar cases pending in another court of the same type. Comparisons can also be made of the length of time different types of cases take in the same court.

Limitations on use:

Courts are grouped on this table by type of court (court of last resort or intermediate appellate court) and by the events used to define the start and end of each interval. Comparisons should be restricted to similar types of cases in courts that use the same events for the start and end of the interval of interest.

Although an attempt has been made to divide the entire time a case is pending into the portion over which the lawyers have control and the portion the court has control, they are not the only factors that affect the pace of litigation. The lawyer may have to wait for the court reporter to prepare the necessary transcripts. The court may have to wait for another court to make a decision on a different aspect of the case. This table indicates the average pace of litigation for large groups of not necessarily homogeneous cases. A detailed study of the pace of litigation should be supported by data of far greater detail than are available here.

TABLE 10:

Time interval (days) data for courts of last resort and intermediate appellate courts, 1981. Courts grouped by beginning event point. Beginning event to briefs filed, to argument or submission, and to decision announced. Argument or submission to decision announced. Type of cases included and statistic type (mean or median).

State and court title	Type of case	Beginning event	Beginning event to briefs filed	Beginning argument or submission	Argument or submission to decision announced	Beginning event to decision announced	Type of statistic
<b>Courts of last resort</b>							
Hawaii--Supreme Court.....	civil	filing of appeal				1,379	mean
	criminal	filing of appeal				639	mean
	original proceedings	filing of appeal				238	mean
Idaho--Supreme Court.....	civil and juvenile	filing of appeal	241†	706	166†	872†	mean
	criminal and postconviction	filing of appeal	336†	709	172	881†	mean
	administrative agency	filing of appeal	294†	665	199	864†	mean
Alaska--Supreme Court.....	civil	notice of appeal	243	334	290†	624†	mean
	criminal	notice of appeal	341	418	302†	720†	mean
	sentence appeal	notice of appeal	141	196	297†	493†	mean
District of Columbia--Court of Appeals.....	total cases	notice of appeal	292	388	120	508	mean
New Mexico--Supreme Court.....	total cases	notice of appeal	169†	224†	99	323	mean
New Jersey--Supreme Court.....	total cases	notice of appeal or granting of certification		225	153	337	mean
	total cases	notice of appeal or granting of certification	121	191	120	325	median
North Dakota--Supreme Court .....	civil	notice of appeal	122	173	46	219	mean
	criminal	notice of appeal	19†	169	36	205	mean
Oregon--Supreme Court.....	total cases	notice of appeal	136	61	130	191	mean
Arkansas--Supreme Court.....	civil	filing of record				161	mean
	criminal and post-conviction remedy	filing of record				175	mean
Iowa--Supreme Court.....	civil	ready for submission		156	19	175	mean
	priority civil	ready for submission			180	143	mean
	criminal	ready for submission			149	159	mean
Mississippi--Supreme Court .....	total cases	ready for submission	209		25	234	mean
	total cases	filing of record				375	mean
Maryland--Court of Appeals.....	total cases	Judgment in lower court				556	mean
New Jersey--Supreme Court.....	total cases	disposition in lower court	331†	446	110	448	mean
New Jersey--Supreme Court.....	total cases	judgment below		352	131	448	mean
	total cases	judgment below		298	114	466	median
<b>Intermediate appellate courts</b>							
Alabama--Court of Civil Appeals.....	total cases (all civil)	notice of appeal	120		19	189	mean
New Jersey--Appellate Division of Superior Court.....	civil and agency	notice of appeal		354	23	375	mean
	criminal	notice of appeal		323	14	371	median
	total cases	notice of appeal		429	16	475	mean
	torts	notice of appeal		435	13	452	median
	probate	notice of appeal		397	20	419	mean
	administrative appeals	notice of appeal		353	14	405	median
	workmen's compensation	notice of appeal	172			297	mean
	interlocutory appeal	notice of appeal	141			288	mean
	other civil	notice of appeal	125			272	mean
	criminal and juvenile	notice of appeal	160			158	mean
	total cases	notice of appeal	81			165	mean
Oregon--Court of Appeals.....	total cases	notice of appeal	173			280	mean
Iowa--Court of Appeals.....	civil	notice of appeal	127			205	mean
	priority civil	notice of appeal	140†	175	51	226	mean
	criminal	ready for submission			177	153	mean
	total cases	ready for submission			153	153	mean
	total cases	ready for submission			168	168	mean
Maryland--Court of Special Appeals.....	total cases	disposition in lower court	119†	285	35	320	mean
New Jersey--Appellate Division of Superior Court.....	total cases	judgment below		494	18	511	mean
	total cases	judgment below			13	462	median
Texas--Courts of Appeal .....	civil	filing of appeal			67	210	mean
	criminal	filing of appeal			9	55	mean

times are given in months, fractions of months, or months and days. For comparability, months were converted to days by using 30.5 days per month.

Data on this table are apparently for appeals decided on the merits after a full review by the court, although this fact is not usually made explicit in the source documents. The data for the Washington Supreme Court are only for appeals filed directly with the court, and not for appeals certified or transferred from the intermediate appellate court. In addition to regular appeals, the New Jersey Supreme Court data include some cases in which the decision on the merits is made pursuant to the argument as to whether the certification should be granted.

<sup>a</sup>Time interval data for the Maryland Court of Appeals and Maryland Court of Special Appeals were collected based on the September, 1980 term.

All available data are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that the data are not available.

<sup>t</sup>For the time the briefs are filed, the following events were used:  
Readiness--Iowa Supreme Court.  
Data perfected--Washington Supreme Court, and Washington Court of Appeals.  
Docketing--Maryland Court of Appeals, Maryland Court of Special Appeals.  
Issue--New Mexico Supreme Court.  
At issue--Idaho Supreme Court, Oregon Supreme Court, Oregon Court of Appeals.  
For time decision announced, the following events were used:  
Opinion publication--Alaska Supreme Court  
Final decision--Oregon Supreme Court and Oregon Court of Appeals  
Final closure--Idaho Supreme Court

TABLE 11: Filed cases in appellate courts, 1975-1981.

Variations in court organization:

Appellate courts in this table have been separated into courts of last resort and intermediate appellate courts. See Table 2 for the number of appellate courts in each state.

Of the 54 courts of last resort in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, 46 reported trend data on appellate cases filed for at least five years. Of the 36 intermediate appellate courts, 33 reported trend data on appellate cases filed for at least five years.

Sources of data:

These are found in the State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report series, 1976-1981.

Variations in subject matter jurisdiction:

The jurisdiction of each court is outlined briefly in the court system chart for each state located in Part II of this report. Variations in jurisdiction make caseload comparisons among appellate courts extremely difficult.

Variations in case classification and definitions:

The case classifications used in the Annual Report series are those chosen for inclusion in the State Court Model Annual Report and State Court Model Statistical Dictionary. Differences among states in what they include in even the broad category, appellate case, can make caseload comparisons difficult from state to state. Some courts, for example, include only appeals in their appellate caseload. Some include original appellate proceedings as cases, while others exclude them. Some courts count requests to appeal as separate cases, double-counting those that are granted and become appeals.

Variations in counting cases:

As indicated in Table 10, some courts count cases as soon as the notice of appeal is filed while others count them at a later event. The latter will exclude those cases that are withdrawn before the counting point from total filings.

The other variations in counting noted in Table 10 also apply to this table.

Appropriate analyses:

The method of counting cases and the data included for each yearly figure were kept constant for each court. As a result, the number and percent changes in caseloads reported in these tables are, except where otherwise noted, due to accrual change (usually growth) in court filings and not to changes in the way the court counted cases. Changes for similar courts or for all courts within a state may be compared for identical time periods.

Between 1980 and 1981 the caseload of most appellate courts increased. Two-thirds of the

courts of last resort experienced some rise in their caseload. Four-fifths of the intermediate appellate courts had increased caseloads also. The median percent increase both for courts of last resort, regardless of whether or not they had intermediate appellate courts was five percent. The median increase in caseload for intermediate appellate courts was seven percent.

Most percentage changes in caseload were modest. The large changes, however, may be more interesting to study. Half of the courts of last resort, with intermediate appellate courts, that experienced a drop in caseload between 1980 and 1981 either had a new intermediate appellate court during that year or the previous year (i.e., Hawaii, Alaska, and Arkansas) or a major shift in jurisdiction from the court of last resort to the intermediate appellate court (i.e., Texas, and Pennsylvania). Four of the remaining five states had an off-setting increase in the intermediate appellate court for the same period (i.e., Arizona, Kansas, Florida, Georgia). Only in Oregon did the caseload of both appellate courts decline, by three percent in the Supreme Court and by one percent in the Court of Appeals.

Similarly, most states with large increases in the court of last resort experienced a considerably smaller increase or a drop in the size of the intermediate appellate court caseload (i.e., Missouri, Kentucky and Maryland). In Tennessee and Alabama, the caseload of both appellate courts increased considerably.

Changes in caseload in courts of last resort without intermediate appellate courts were similarly distributed; with more than half clustered between 2 percent and 8 percent. Two of the states that fell in the upper half of the distribution are scheduled to receive intermediate appellate courts over the next few years (South Carolina and Virginia).

All these comparisons consider only the number of cases that were brought before the court for its consideration, and do not account for differences in the segments of the caseload.

Limitations on use:

Caseloads normally fluctuate from year to year, so changes from one year to the next may not be representative of the actual underlying trend. As is noted above, the change in the jurisdiction of a court or the creation of an intermediate appellate court will have a dramatic effect on the rate and direction of change of related courts' caseloads. Creation of an intermediate court increases the opportunity to file cases, so states in which these courts were created usually show faster growth in the total appellate caseload than that found in states that either had an intermediate court for the entire interval or did not have one at all. Once the capacity of the new court is reached, the rate of growth may decrease. The addition of judges to an intermediate court may have a similar though less dramatic effect on historical caseload data growth patterns.

**TABLE 11:**  
**Filed cases in appellate courts, 1975-1981.**  
*Number of cases filed, and percent changes.*

State and court title	Cases filed							Percent changes	
	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1980-1981	1975-1981
<b>Courts of last resort</b>									
Alabama--Supreme Court .....	369	510	815	667	762	846	1,018	172 ( 20%)	649 (176%)
Alaska--Supreme Court .....	315	468	613	630	656	572*	493	-79 (-14%)*	178 ( 57%)*
Arizona--Supreme Court .....	905 <sup>k</sup>	1,063 <sup>k</sup>	1,005 <sup>k</sup>	1,171 <sup>k</sup>	1,093 <sup>k</sup>	1,140	1,143	3 ( 1%)	238 ( 26%)
Arkansas--Supreme Court .....			694	584	650*	756	520	-236 (-31%)	--
California--Supreme Court .....	3,668	3,801	3,850	4,012	3,784	3,963	4,006	43 ( 1%)	338 ( 9%)
Colorado--Supreme Court .....	553	651	735	854	941	950	966	16 ( 2%)	413 ( 75%)
Connecticut--Supreme Court .....			409 <sup>l</sup>	474 <sup>l</sup>	614	675	637 <sup>l</sup>		
Delaware--Supreme Court .....	333	335	364	361	339	332	337	5 ( 2%)	4 ( 1%)
District of Columbia--Court of Appeals .....	1,265	1,369	1,353	1,305	1,236	1,426	1,663	237 ( 17%)	398 ( 31%)
Florida--Supreme Court .....	1,846	2,214	2,253	2,740	2,561	1,714	1,456	-258 (-15%)	-390 (-21%)
Georgia--Supreme Court .....	1,313	1,433	1,496	1,506	1,450 <sup>b</sup>	1,580	1,356	-224 (-14%)	43 ( 3%)
Hawaii--Supreme Court .....	194	265	316	374	338	416*	356	-60 (-14%)*	162 ( 84%)*
Idaho--Supreme Court .....	338 <sup>l</sup>	332 <sup>l</sup>	374 <sup>l</sup>	340 <sup>l</sup>	410 <sup>l</sup>	438 <sup>l</sup>	435 <sup>l</sup>	-3 <sup>l</sup> (-1% <sup>l</sup> )	97 <sup>l</sup> ( 29% <sup>l</sup> )
Illinois--Supreme Court .....	1,087	998	1,139	1,250	1,346	1,461	1,644	183 ( 13%)	557 ( 51%)
Indiana--Supreme Court .....		430	476	466	604	646	712	66 ( 10%)	--
Iowa--Supreme Court .....	1,086	1,176	1,231*	1,490	1,507	1,620	1,733	113 ( 7%)	647 ( 60%)*
Kansas--Supreme Court .....	368	438	464*		443	410	392	-18 ( -4%)	24 ( 7%)*
Kentucky--Supreme Court <sup>k</sup> .....	1,199	833*	463	771	754	733	928	195 ( 27%)	-271 (-23%)*
Louisiana--Supreme Court .....	1,606	1,762	2,266	2,405	2,842	3,071	3,337	266 ( 7%)	1,731 (108%)
Maine--Supreme Judicial Court ..	268	334	379	422	408	565	576	11 ( 2%)	308 (115%)
Maryland--Court of Appeals .....	756 <sup>j</sup>	657 <sup>j</sup>	558	585	540	565	684	119 ( 21%)	
Michigan--Supreme Court .....	974	1,045	1,503	1,636	1,470	1,850	1,949	99 ( 5%)	975 (100%)
Minnesota--Supreme Court .....	921	911	1,001	1,117			1,391		470 ( 51%)
Mississippi--Supreme Court .....		936	797	774	843	960	890 <sup>l</sup>		--
Missouri--Supreme Court .....	439	579	667	615	684	836	1,072	236 ( 28%)	633 (144%)
Montana--Supreme Court .....	299	409	469	517	472	494	574	80 ( 16%)	275 ( 92%)
Nebraska--Supreme Court .....	571 <sup>l</sup>	716 <sup>l</sup>	607 <sup>l</sup>	646 <sup>l</sup>	638 <sup>l</sup>	741 <sup>l</sup>	929 <sup>l</sup>	188 <sup>l</sup> ( 25% <sup>l</sup> )	358 <sup>l</sup> ( 63% <sup>l</sup> )
Nevada--Supreme Court .....	553	806	1,092	1,031	912	731	719	-12 ( -2%)	166 ( 30%)
New Hampshire--Supreme Court ...	268	273	315	310	293	599	482	-117 (-20%)	214 ( 80%)
New Jersey--Supreme Court .....	1,048 <sup>l</sup>	1,164 <sup>l</sup>	902 <sup>l</sup>	1,016 <sup>l</sup>	1,086 <sup>l</sup>	1,104 <sup>l</sup>	1,127 <sup>l</sup>	23 <sup>l</sup> ( 2% <sup>l</sup> )	79 <sup>l</sup> ( 8% <sup>l</sup> )
New Mexico--Supreme Court .....	500	558	632	654	615	577	610	33 ( 6%)	110 ( 22%)
North Carolina--Supreme Court ..	520	546	465	541	624				
North Dakota--Supreme Court ....	129	150	186		208	294	309	15 ( 5%)	180 (140%)
Ohio--Supreme Court .....	1,323	1,404	1,516	1,593	1,721	1,864	2,001	137 ( 7%)	678 ( 51%)
Oklahoma--STATE TOTAL .....	1,806	1,998	2,002	1,729	1,922	2,457			
Supreme Court .....	992	1,019	1,109	1,029	1,176	1,636			
Court of Criminal Appeals ....	814	979	893	700	746	811			
Oregon--Supreme Court .....	773	973	885	594	727	834	812	-22 ( -3%)	39 ( 5%)
Pennsylvania--Supreme Court ....	1,696 <sup>l</sup>	1,736 <sup>l</sup>	1,549 <sup>l</sup>	1,944 <sup>l</sup>	1,850 <sup>l</sup>	1,774 <sup>l</sup>	1,134 <sup>lk</sup>	-640 <sup>l</sup> (-36% <sup>lk</sup> )	-562 <sup>l</sup> (-33% <sup>lk</sup> )
Puerto Rico--Supreme Court .....	1,083	1,204	1,248	1,136	1,170	1,382	1,469	87 ( 6%)	386 ( 36%)
Rhode Island--Supreme Court ....	347	411	427	445	486	608	643	35 ( 6%)	296 ( 85%)
South Carolina--Supreme Court ..	276	416	487	714	715	921	1,035	114 ( 12%)	759 (275%)
South Dakota--Supreme Court ....	218	294	288	279	319	359	326	-33 ( -9%)	108 ( 50%)
Tennessee--Supreme Court .....	953	897	879	813	854	733	885	152 ( 21%)	-68 ( -7%)
Texas--STATE TOTAL .....	3,715	4,774	5,727	5,942	5,859	6,285	5,751 <sup>k</sup>	-534 ( -8% <sup>k</sup> )	2,036 ( 55% <sup>k</sup> )
Supreme Court .....	973	1,072	1,035	1,070	1,014	1,014	1,024	10 ( 1%)	51 ( 5%)
Court of Criminal Appeals ....	2,742	3,702	4,692	4,872	4,845	5,271	4,727 <sup>k</sup>	-544 (-10% <sup>k</sup> )	1,985 ( 72% <sup>k</sup> )

(continued on next page)

**TABLE 11:**  
**Filed cases in appellate courts, 1975-1981. (continued)**

State and court title	Cases filed							Percent changes	
	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1980-1981	1975-1981
<b>Courts of last resort (continued)</b>									
Vermont--Supreme Court .....	355	366	364	359	422	476	508	32 ( 7%)	153 ( 43%)
Virginia--Supreme Court .....	1,526	1,672	1,932	1,846	1,862	2,091	2,257	166 ( 8%)	731 ( 48%)
Washington--Supreme Court .....	504	589	638	654	785	767	863	96 ( 13%)	359 ( 71%)
West Virginia--Supreme Court of Appeals .....	720	878	863	713	1,012	1,262	1,178	-84 ( -7%)	458 ( 64%)
Wisconsin--Supreme Court .....	840	929	904		636*	683	737	54 ( 8%)	-103 (-12%)*
Wyoming--Supreme Court .....	129	138	146	157	177	207	198	-9 ( -4%)	69 ( 53%)
<b>Intermediate appellate courts</b>									
Alabama--STATE TOTAL .....	1,011 <sup>f</sup>	1,270 <sup>f</sup>	1,161 <sup>f</sup>	1,273 <sup>f</sup>	1,248 <sup>f</sup>	1,302 <sup>f</sup>	1,505 <sup>f</sup>	203 <sup>f</sup> ( 16%) <sup>f</sup>	494 <sup>f</sup> ( 49%) <sup>f</sup>
Court of Civil Appeals .....	133	186	308	361	419	464	475	11 ( 2%)	342 (257%)
Court of Criminal Appeals .....	878 <sup>f</sup>	1,084 <sup>f</sup>	853 <sup>f</sup>	912 <sup>f</sup>	829 <sup>f</sup>	838 <sup>f</sup>	1,030 <sup>f</sup>	192 <sup>f</sup> ( 23%) <sup>f</sup>	152 <sup>f</sup> ( 17%) <sup>f</sup>
Alaska--Court of Appeals .....	--	--	--	--	--	69	262	193 (280%)	--
Arizona--Court of Appeals .....	1,725	2,017	2,005	2,183	1,999	2,212	2,436	224 ( 10%)	711 ( 41%)
Arkansas--Court of Appeals .....	--	--	--	--	616	983	1,094	111 ( 11%)	--
California--Courts of Appeal ...	9,936	10,312	11,460	12,337	12,853	14,374	15,446	1,072 ( 7%)	5,510 ( 55%)
Colorado--Court of Appeals .....	858	915	1,128	1,119	1,214	1,207	1,273	66 ( 5%)	415 ( 48%)
Connecticut--Appellate Sessions of Superior Court .....	173	211	199	223	135	122		--	--
Florida--Court of Appeals .....	7,849	9,129	9,647	9,563	12,350	11,801	13,795	1,994 ( 17%)	5,946 ( 76%)
Georgia--Court of Appeals .....		1,754	2,132	2,000	1,969	2,031	2,542	511 ( 25%)	--
Hawaii--Intermediate Court of Appeals .....	--	--	--	--	--	262	117	-145 (-55%)	--
Illinois--Appellate Court .....	4,135	3,973	4,381	4,411	5,732	6,603	6,594	-9 ( 0%)	2,459 ( 59%)
Indiana--Court of Appeals .....	626	777	883	896	941	937	1,095	158 ( 17%)	469 ( 75%)
Iowa--Court of Appeals .....	--	--	356	370	377	460	454	-6 ( -1%)	--
Kansas--Court of Appeals .....	--	--	370	792	816	916	967	51 ( 6%)	--
Kentucky--Court of Appeals .....	--	615	1,922	1,571	1,863	2,267	2,374	107 ( 5%)	--
Louisiana--Courts of Appeal ....	2,020	2,189	2,407	2,386	2,664	2,873	2,878	5 ( 1%)	858 ( 42%)
Maryland--Court of Special Appeals .....	1,286 <sup>j</sup>	1,541 <sup>j</sup>	1,545	1,644	1,689	1,892	1,851	-41 ( -2%)	--
Massachusetts--Appeals Court ...	870 <sup>f</sup>	605 <sup>f</sup>	1,166 <sup>f</sup>	1,050 <sup>f</sup>	1,045 <sup>f</sup>	1,210 <sup>f</sup>	1,269 <sup>f</sup>	59 <sup>f</sup> ( 5%) <sup>f</sup>	399 <sup>f</sup> ( 46%) <sup>f</sup>
Michigan--Court of Appeals .....	4,435	4,544	5,274	5,248	5,499	5,980	6,318	438 ( 7%)	1,983 ( 45%)
Missouri--Court of Appeals .....	1,818	2,181	2,146	2,255	2,219	2,646	2,820	174 ( 7%)	1,002 ( 55%)
New Jersey--Appellate Division of Superior Court .....	4,383	4,819	5,978	6,098	5,618	6,121	6,838	717 ( 12%)	2,455 ( 56%)
New Mexico--Court of Appeals ...	514	446	576	539	517	570	505 <sup>j</sup>		
New York--STATE TOTAL .....		9,477 <sup>f</sup>	10,256 <sup>f</sup>	10,599 <sup>f</sup>	10,453 <sup>f</sup>	10,817 <sup>f</sup>	11,638 <sup>f</sup>	821 <sup>f</sup> ( 8%) <sup>f</sup>	--
Appellate Divisions of the Supreme Court .....		7,362 <sup>f</sup>	7,826 <sup>f</sup>	8,384 <sup>f</sup>	8,418 <sup>f</sup>	8,630 <sup>f</sup>	9,338 <sup>f</sup>	708 <sup>f</sup> ( 8%) <sup>f</sup>	--
Appellate Terms of the Supreme Court .....	2,177	2,115	2,430	2,215	2,035	2,187	2,300	113 ( 5%)	123 ( 6%)
Ohio--Court of Appeals .....	6,869	7,204	7,992	7,546	7,994	8,980	8,915	-65 ( -1%)	2,046 ( 30%)
Oklahoma--Court of Appeals .....	327	418	353	449	647	496		--	--
Oregon--Court of Appeals .....	1,539	1,847	2,348	3,106	3,456	3,436	3,403	-33 ( -1%)	1,864 (121%)
Pennsylvania--STATE TOTAL .....	5,023 <sup>f</sup>	6,067 <sup>f</sup>	6,364 <sup>f</sup>	7,692 <sup>f</sup>	6,933 <sup>f</sup>	8,318 <sup>f</sup>	8,846 <sup>1k</sup>	528 <sup>f</sup> ( 6%) <sup>1k</sup>	3,823 <sup>f</sup> ( 76%) <sup>1k</sup>
Superior Court .....	2,996 <sup>f</sup>	3,631 <sup>f</sup>	3,700 <sup>f</sup>	4,495 <sup>f</sup>	4,047 <sup>f</sup>	4,523 <sup>f</sup>	5,037 <sup>1k</sup>	514 <sup>f</sup> ( 11%) <sup>1k</sup>	2,041 <sup>f</sup> ( 68%) <sup>1k</sup>
Commonwealth Court .....	2,027	2,436	2,664	3,197	2,886	3,795	3,809 <sup>k</sup>	14 ( 1%) <sup>k</sup>	1,782 ( 88%) <sup>k</sup>
Tennessee--STATE TOTAL .....	1,285	1,330	1,472	1,424	1,438	1,520	1,723	203 ( 13%)	438 ( 34%)
Court of Appeals .....	655	694	758	730	775	806	884	78 ( 10%)	229 ( 35%)
Court of Criminal Appeals ....	630	636	714	694	663	714	839	125 ( 18%)	209 ( 33%)
Texas--Courts of Appeals .....	1,764 <sup>f</sup>	1,824 <sup>f</sup>	1,969 <sup>f</sup>	2,172 <sup>f</sup>	2,445 <sup>f</sup>	2,621 <sup>f</sup>	7,814 <sup>1k</sup>	5,193 <sup>f</sup> (198%) <sup>1k</sup>	6,050 <sup>f</sup> (343%) <sup>1k</sup>
Washington--Court of Appeals ...	1,819	1,777	1,996	2,093	2,243	2,752	2,799	47 ( 2%)	980 ( 54%)
Wisconsin--Court of Appeals ....	--	--	--	--	1,983	2,287	2,479	192 ( 8%)	--



Note: For inclusion on this table a case is defined as any appeal, any original proceeding, or any request to appeal. Requests to appeal are counted when originally filed and are not counted again if granted. All complete data are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable, or the calculations were inappropriate.

-- = Not applicable.

\*Indicates the year the intermediate appellate court began operation.

<sup>b</sup>Particular court or reporting system information:

Georgia--Supreme Court--Data reported by the court prior to 1979 do not include pending data, and it is therefore not clear how requests to appeal which were granted in these years were counted. Data from before 1979 may not be comparable with that reported for years after 1979.

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

Alabama--Court of Criminal Appeals--Figures do not include petitions disposed in the clerk's office at the direction of the court.

Connecticut--Supreme Court--Figures footnoted do not include petitions for certification.

Idaho--Supreme Court--Figures do not include requests to appeal.

Massachusetts--Appeals Court--Figures do not include original proceedings or requests to appeal.

Mississippi--Supreme Court--Figure for 1981 does not include original proceedings cases.

Nebraska--Supreme Court--Figures given include appeals and original jurisdiction cases only. No information is available on the number of requests to appeal that are filed.

New Jersey--Supreme Court--Data do not include all motions for direct certification and motions for leave to appeal.

New York--Appellate Divisions of the Supreme Court--Data reported do not include original proceedings.

Pennsylvania--Supreme Court--Figures do not include any original proceedings.

Superior Court--Figures reported include appeals only.

Texas--Courts of Appeals--Figures reported include appeals only.

<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:

Maryland--Court of Appeals and Court of Special Appeals--Requests to appeal granted were double counted in the data reported here for 1975 and 1976--once when the request to appeal was filed and again when the resulting appeal was filed.

New Mexico--Court of Appeals--Figure for 1981 includes interlocutory appeals, which are available for previous years.

<sup>k</sup>Additional information:

Arizona--Supreme Court--Figures given for 1975-1979 were corrected from previous editions of this report.

Kentucky--Supreme Court--Before 1976, the court of last resort was named the Court of Appeals.

Pennsylvania--In 1981 the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court was changed to make it a "certiorari court." At the same time, the jurisdiction of both the Commonwealth and Superior Courts was increased. The results of these changes are reflected in the changes in the caseload volume of these three courts.

Texas--Courts of Appeals--The jurisdiction of this court was expanded in 1981 to cover criminal appeals, in effect creating a "new" intermediate appellate court under the Court of Criminal Appeals.

## Trial court summary statistics

This section contains tables that display the 1981 statistical data from the trial courts. The data cannot be found in published annual reports alone. All published annual reports and other available documents from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico are used. Unpublished data provided by state court administrators or other officials are also used.

Court systems that contributed to the 1975 Annual Report have provided more data as state court administrators have become aware of the CSIM Project data needs. Several states that did not submit data for the 1975 report have since changed or improved their data systems to the extent that they now provide data for this national statistical series.

Trial court data received from states are generally more detailed than appellate court data. Although the State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting has enabled staff to make quantum leaps forward in identifying units of count and the subject matter jurisdiction of trial courts, some specific problems make comparisons of the data presented in this Report difficult. These problems are (1) the lack of uniform case classifications; (2) lack of uniform ways of counting cases; (3) the lack of complete data reported by the courts; (4) questions relating to the validity of data collected, both published and unpublished; and (5) variations in the subject matter jurisdiction of the courts.

The first problem in comparing data from trial courts is the lack of uniformity in case classification. Case categories and the data classified in the case categories vary from state to state. For example, DWI cases may be counted with criminal cases in one state, and with traffic cases in another state. This sort of classification problem, however, has been addressed in the State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting.

The second problem deals with the units of count employed to measure cases. This problem has already been presented in the introduction to this volume, and is examined in greater detail in Figure C.

The third problem in comparing data from trial courts is the lack of complete statistics. Some states report only total caseload. Others report individual case categories, but do not describe the contents of those categories. For example, a state may report total civil and criminal data but

not identify whether they include estate, domestic relations or mental health. This omission presents a problem in interstate comparisons. In addition, there are states that are not consistent in their reporting of data. The general jurisdiction court, for example, may give detailed category breakdowns, whereas the limited jurisdiction court may report only total civil, criminal, and juvenile cases, or not report at all.

The fourth problem relates to questions of validity of the data collected, both published and unpublished. One of the major factors in data validity is the chance of human error. Many elements (hidden data, transposition of figures, double counting of cases, manner used to verify data) contribute to the scope of this problem. Although many verification techniques have been implemented by state court administrators and by the Court Statistics and Information Management Project staff to keep errors to a minimum, the reader should understand that a verification process does not guarantee absolute accuracy.

The final problem is variation in the subject matter jurisdiction of the courts. In 1981, six states, Illinois, Idaho, Iowa, Massachusetts, Missouri and South Dakota, the District of Columbia, and Guam, handled all cases in general jurisdiction courts. In other states, such as Florida and New Jersey, general jurisdiction courts process only major criminal cases and major civil actions, while other civil and criminal cases are handled by limited jurisdiction courts. Limited jurisdiction courts were added to this series in 1976 in order to present a complete picture of the trial court caseload. The 1981 state court system charts in Part II show that the number and types of trial courts vary from state to state. This difference in court structure must be kept in mind while examining the data in these summary tables.

The reader should note that only states reporting data that could be displayed in specific case category tables (i.e., felony, real property rights, status offenses, etc.) are included in such tables. For the sake of clarity, those states that did not report such detail are not listed.

The following tables are sequenced from a general overview (national caseload totals for courts) to the more specific caseload detail (civil, criminal, traffic/other violation, and juvenile case categories and caseload).

TABLE 12: Reported national caseload (civil, criminal, and juvenile) in all trial courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization:

In 1981 the number of different kinds of trial courts in a state ranged from 1 (in states with a single-tier trial court) to 15. Five states (Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and South Dakota), the District of Columbia, and Guam have no limited jurisdiction courts. Massachusetts has one general jurisdiction court with seven departments.

A court system chart for each state can be found in Part II of this Report.

Variations in subject matter jurisdiction:

When comparing trial court statistics, the differences in jurisdiction both within and among states must be examined. For example, general jurisdiction courts in states with single-tier courts handle all cases from felonies and the largest civil actions to small claims. Another state's general jurisdiction courts may have a criminal division that handles only felony matters (after preliminary hearings in limited jurisdiction courts), and a civil division that handles no civil cases involving less than \$10,000.

Variations in case classification and definitions:

In previous years, it was not possible to identify the specific content of the reported caseload of some courts. Those that reported figures for general categories such as "civil" or "criminal" did not further specify what types of civil or criminal cases came under the court's jurisdiction and therefore were included in these reported figures. For 1981, the CSIM project completed a comprehensive survey of trial court jurisdiction, the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting. Through this work, it is now possible to state what types of cases are and what types are not included in the data reported by each court. As a result, classification problems that have existed in the past have been substantially eliminated.

A few problems remain, however. There are states that are not consistent in their reporting of data. The general jurisdiction court, for example, may give detailed category breakdowns, whereas the limited jurisdiction court may report only total civil, criminal, and juvenile cases, or not report at all.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in counting cases:

Figure C displays the existing variation in criminal case units of count. These figures show that the problem of case definition in trial courts is more acute on the criminal side. Most states, Puerto Rico, and Guam count civil cases in all trial courts when the petition or complaint is filed. The problem is more complex in criminal cases, and is described fully in Figure C.

Reported cases:

The reported cases figures include all states that reported complete data for that type of case. For example, data would not be included for a state that reported all civil cases for its general jurisdiction court but incomplete data

for one or more of its limited jurisdiction courts.

This standard of completeness was not followed for the criminal caseload. For 1981, the CSIM project modified its list of case types to be included in the criminal caseload. Using information collected for the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting, it was possible to identify in which figure the court of each type of case was included, but it was not always possible to separate the counts of cases added to or removed from the newly defined criminal caseload. So that there would be a sufficient number of states reporting usable data on which to base an estimate of the criminal caseload, the completeness criterion was relaxed to include in the analysis states reporting data that were believed to be at least 90 percent complete. States were included whose criminal figures did not include DWI/DUI cases, or did include a limited number of ordinance violations or preliminary hearings.

Number of states reporting complete data:

This figure represents the total number of states whose trial courts reported complete data as defined above.

Percent of population represented by complete data:

State population figures used are the revised 1981 Bureau of Census figures and total 232,668,000 for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Guam. This was the figure used to compute percent of population represented by complete data for the civil and criminal caseloads in all courts. Total juvenile population for 1981 was estimated by the Bureau of the Census to be 63,163. This figure does not include Puerto Rico or Guam.

Estimated national totals:

These are the cumulative totals of all reported state total data that were complete, plus the estimated totals for each state for which complete figures were unavailable. The procedure used to estimate incomplete and missing data is discussed in Appendix A.

Appropriate analyses:

The estimates of total trial court volume can be compared to the estimates of the total appellate volume given in Table 1 to indicate the relationship between filings and dispositions in trial and appellate courts. The estimate of the total volume of civil, criminal, and juvenile caseloads shows the relative distribution for these three case types of cases that are brought to the trial courts.

Limitations on use:

The estimates of case volume are based on complete data from only a portion of the states. It is not possible at this time to gauge the variability of these estimates. They should be viewed as gross, "ball park" estimates, and not as representing the exact volume of cases in state courts.

**TABLE 12:**  
**Reported national caseload (civil, criminal, and juvenile) in all trial courts, 1981.**  
*Estimated civil, criminal, and juvenile cases filed and disposed in all trial courts.*

Reported and estimated caseload	Filed	Disposed
<b>CIVIL</b>		
All trial courts:		
Reported cases .....	5,253,987	4,175,739
Number of states reporting complete data .....	19	15
Percent of population represented by complete data ....	35%	33%
Percent of variance explained ( $R^2$ ) .....	98%	98%
Estimated totals from Appendix A .....	9,503,345	9,739,761
Estimated national totals .....	14,800,000	13,900,000
<b>CRIMINAL</b>		
All trial courts:		
Reported cases .....	3,946,471	2,534,414
Number of states reporting complete data .....	21	15
Percent of population represented by complete data ....	42%	33%
Percent of variance explained ( $R^2$ ) .....	63% and 99%	65% to 99%
Estimated totals from Appendix A .....	5,209,438	5,176,366
Estimated national totals .....	9,200,000	7,700,000
<b>JUVENILE</b>		
All trial courts:		
Reported cases .....	883,275	600,184
Number of states reporting complete data .....	36	24
Percent of population represented by complete data ....	66%	50%
Estimated totals from Appendix A .....	447,928	634,065
Estimated national totals .....	1,331,000	1,234,000

Note: Data included in this table are those from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam and Puerto Rico. To ascertain the states that reported data in any category, refer to Tables 13, 14 and 16. Figures for the percent of variance explained ( $R^2$ ) for juvenile estimates can be found in Appendix A.

TABLE 13: Reported grand total, and total civil trial court caseload, 1981.

TABLE 14: Reported total criminal trial court caseload, 1981.

TABLE 15: Reported total traffic/other violation trial court caseload, 1981.

TABLE 16: Reported total juvenile trial court caseload, 1981.

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Variations in court organization:

Fifty states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico have 1981 trial court data displayed in Table 13 through Table 16.

A court organization chart for each state is in Part II of this Report. The wide variation in court organization from state to state can be illustrated by comparing the District of Columbia's single-tier court system with Georgia, which has a number of general jurisdiction and/or limited jurisdiction courts. These differences in court organization determine the proportion of total trial court caseload that will be heard in general jurisdiction and in limited jurisdiction courts in each state.

Variations in subject matter jurisdiction:

The variations in court organization mentioned above will also determine what proportion of civil, criminal, traffic/other violation, and juvenile case types are heard at each level of court. These are the only four tables that list every court with the relevant subject matter jurisdiction, regardless of the availability of data. See the individual court system charts in Part II for more detailed descriptions of the case types handled in each trial court.

Variations in case classification and definitions:

Tables 13 through 16 show only the very broad breakdown of caseload into civil, criminal, traffic/other violation, and juvenile cases, and indicate with NHs the case types not handled in each particular court. These tables give a good overview of the way caseload is distributed among the trial courts. The large number of blank spaces indicates from which courts data are unavailable or less than 90% complete for 1981. No totals appear for a state on the state name line in any of the columns unless complete data (at least 90%) were reported by all courts handling that case type. State totals are left blank if data are missing from any court in the state.

Sources of data are indicated in Appendix B.

Variations in counting civil and criminal cases:

Care should be taken to avoid comparing states with data based on non-comparable units of count. These definitions in criminal cases are spelled out in Figure C. Check the notes at the end of each table to identify those courts that do not count civil cases at the filing of the petition or complaint. Only data from those states that count cases in the same way can be

compared. The introduction to this volume describes the importance of controlling for the unit of count when comparing state data.

Appropriate analyses:

All percentage calculations that were less than 1% but greater than 0% have been rounded up to 1%. All percentage calculations that were less than 0% but greater than -1% have been rounded down to -1%.

Disposed cases as percent of filed. This measure represents the percent of the number of filed cases that the court was able to dispose. The percent is computed by dividing the number of cases filed by the number disposed and then multiplying by one hundred. A percent over one hundred indicates that the court disposed more cases than were filed, thus reducing pending caseload. A percent significantly less than one hundred indicates that the court is not keeping up with the volume of cases being filed.

Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population. The unit of state population used on all court caseload charts is 100,000. This measure compensates for variations in state population and gives a more realistic basis for comparison of caseloads among states of various sizes. If the number of filings was unavailable but the number of dispositions was available, the number of cases disposed per unit of population was entered in this column in place of the number of cases filed per population unit. The use of this alternative quantity is indicated by enclosing it in parentheses. Population figures represent the total state population.

If all other factors (court jurisdiction, case definition, unit of count, etc.) are similar, the filed per unit of population statistic permits direct comparison among states of the number of filed civil cases, criminal cases, traffic/other violation cases, juvenile cases, as well as among state totals.

Limitations on use:

Data that are not at least 90% complete are not included in this table to prevent inappropriate comparisons. The data that are included must account for differences between the way cases are defined and counted in different courts. Where possible, comparisons should be limited to those among state totals for specific types of cases. Before making comparisons between limited jurisdiction courts or among general jurisdiction courts, check the court system charts in Part II of this volume for similarities in jurisdiction.

TABLE 13:

Reported grand total civil, and total trial court caseload, 1981.  
 All courts. Begin pending, filed, disposed and end pending. Disposed as a percentage of filed and filed per 100,000 population.

State and court name	Jurisdiction	Parking	State and court totals					Civil						
			Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Dis-posed as % of filed	Filed (dis-posed) per 100,000 population	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Dis-posed as % of filed	Filed (dis-posed) per 100,000 population
<b>ALABAMA: STATE TOTAL</b>														
Circuit Court	G			128,328j	128,852j									
District Court	L			542,621j	526,429j									
Probate Court	L													
Municipal Court	L													
<b>ALASKA: STATE TOTAL</b>														
Superior Court	G	CP		14,316j	145,076ij									
District Court	L	CP			13,619j									
<b>ARIZONA: STATE TOTAL</b>														
Superior Court	G		97,995i	114,808i	112,981i	100,250i	4,109i							
Justice of the Peace Court	L													
Municipal Court	L													
<b>ARKANSAS: STATE TOTAL</b>														
Circuit Court	G		34,090	47,411	48,490	33,011	2,065	102%						
Chancery Court and Probate Court	G			49,165			2,141							
Municipal Court	L													
County Court	L													
Court of Common Pleas	L			300			13							
Police Court and City Court	L													
<b>CALIFORNIA: STATE TOTAL</b>														
Superior Court	G	P		18,179,778j	15,477,265j		75,135j	85%						
Justice Court	L			702,122	562,058		2,901	80%						
Municipal Court	L			636,113j	533,453j		2,629j	84%						
Police Court	L			16,841,543j	14,381,754j		69,605j	85%						
<b>COLORADO: STATE TOTAL</b>														
District Court, Denver	G			692,124j			22,084j							
Superior Court	G			643,337j			20,528j							
Probate Court	L			48,787			1,557							
<b>CONNECTICUT: STATE TOTAL</b>														
Superior Court	G			42,853ij	244,845ij	242,843ij	44,855ij	99%						
Probate Court	L			5,606j	7,071j	6,964j	5,713j	98%						
<b>DELAWARE: STATE TOTAL</b>														
Superior Court	G	P		7,571	2,892		7,787	93%						
Court of Chancery	G			3,679	14,635i	13,946i	4,368	95%						
Court of Common Pleas	L			6,382i	30,654i	30,539i	6,497i	100%						
Family Court	L			1,800i	20,538i	20,806i	1,532i	101%						
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	P		1,572	17,800	17,793	1,579	100%						
Alderman's Court	L	P		16,243	151,255	150,119	17,379	99%						
Justice of the Peace Court	L													

	G	35,204 <i>i</i> j	196,047	190,270 <i>i</i>	40,763 <i>i</i> j	31,069	28,161 <i>i</i>	148,118	143,346 <i>i</i>	32,715	23,474
Superior Court											
FLORIDA: STATE TOTAL											
Circuit Court	G	3,353,920	3,038,908		91%	32,936		554,507	498,021		90%
County Court	L	506,828	470,164		93%	4,977		293,572	271,136		92%
City Court	L	2,847,092	2,568,744		90%	27,959		260,935	226,885		87%
GEORGIA: STATE TOTAL											
Superior Court and Juvenile Court	G			199,452 <i>j</i>	88% <i>i</i> j	4,047 <i>j</i>		125,880 <i>j</i>	106,153 <i>j</i>		84% <i>j</i>
State Court and County Court	L										
Probate Court	L										
Justice of the Peace Court	L										
Small Claims Court	L										
Municipal Court (located in Savannah and Columbus)	L										
Magistrate's Court	L										
Civil Court	L										
Criminal Court, Municipal Court (other locations), Recorder's Court, Mayor's Court, City Council Court, and Police Court	L										
GUAM:											
Superior Court	G	25,248	53,960	26,376	27,584	49%		14,549	2,729	11,820	19%
HAWAII: STATE TOTAL											
Circuit Court	G	186,102 <i>j</i>	876,096	885,632	176,375 <i>j</i>	101%	40,008 <i>j</i>	39,547 <i>j</i>	32,848 <i>j</i>	46,707 <i>j</i>	83% <i>j</i>
County Court	L	38,175	33,745	27,142	44,778	80%	29,720 <i>j</i>	22,640 <i>j</i>	16,856 <i>j</i>	35,504 <i>j</i>	74% <i>j</i>
District Court	L	147,927 <i>j</i>	842,351	858,490	131,597 <i>j</i>	102%	10,288	16,907	15,992	11,203	95%
IDAHO:											
District Court	G	56,391 <i>j</i>	296,350 <i>j</i>	310,638 <i>j</i>	42,103 <i>j</i>	105% <i>j</i>	36,553	52,556	60,815	28,294	116%
ILLINOIS:											
Circuit Court	G	7,957,622	5,618,430		71%	69,426	578,638	671,410	639,984	613,773	95%
INDIANA: STATE TOTAL											
Superior Court and Circuit Court	P	533,138 <i>i</i>	1,055,848 <i>i</i>	1,019,768 <i>i</i>	573,372 <i>i</i>	97% <i>i</i>	19,310 <i>i</i>				
County Court	G	289,918 <i>i</i>	367,785 <i>i</i>	366,869 <i>i</i>	295,425 <i>i</i>	100% <i>i</i>	6,726 <i>i</i>	211,750 <i>i</i>	209,038 <i>i</i>	233,130 <i>i</i>	99% <i>i</i>
Probate Court	L	117,379 <i>i</i>	305,147 <i>i</i>	295,280 <i>i</i>	127,565 <i>i</i>	97% <i>i</i>	5,581 <i>i</i>				
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	5,474	2,657	2,453	5,678	92%	49	3,895	1,445	4,188	80%
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L	86,363	153,604	152,677	87,305	99%	7,501	14,364	17,021	4,859	118%
City Court and Town Court	L	3,951	51,084	46,836	8,397	92%	934	49,899	45,906		92%
City Court and Town Court	L	29,053 <i>i</i>	175,571 <i>i</i>	155,653 <i>i</i>	49,002 <i>i</i>	89% <i>i</i>	3,211 <i>i</i>				
IOWA:											
District Court	G			929,661 <i>j</i>	(32,068) <i>i</i> j			158,755 <i>j</i>	152,942 <i>j</i>		96% <i>j</i>
KANSAS: STATE TOTAL											
District Court	G			442,577	438,855	99%		119,511	118,143		99%
Municipal Court	L							119,511	118,143		99%
KENTUCKY: STATE TOTAL											
Circuit Court	G	709,738 <i>j</i>	628,551 <i>j</i>		89% <i>j</i>	19,381 <i>j</i>		190,014 <i>j</i>	168,668 <i>j</i>		89% <i>j</i>
County Court	L	84,628 <i>j</i>	81,671 <i>j</i>		97% <i>j</i>	2,311 <i>j</i>		71,024 <i>j</i>	69,698 <i>j</i>		98% <i>j</i>
District Court	L	625,110 <i>j</i>	546,880 <i>j</i>		87% <i>j</i>	17,070 <i>j</i>		118,990 <i>j</i>	98,970 <i>j</i>		83% <i>j</i>
LOUISIANA: STATE TOTAL											
District Court	G		544,340 <i>j</i>			12,636 <i>j</i>		157,977 <i>j</i>			3,667 <i>j</i>
Family Court and Juvenile Court	L		20,243			470					
City Court, Parish Court, Municipal Court, and Traffic Court of New Orleans	L		708,505	563,290	80%	16,446		80,632	51,331		64%
Justice of the Peace Court	L										
Mayor's Court	L										

(continued on next page)

**TABLE 13:**  
**Reported grand total, and total civil trial court caseload, 1981. (continued)**

State and court name	State and court totals										Civil		
	Juris- dic- tion	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Dis- posed as % of filed	Filed (dis- posed) per 100,000 popu- lation	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Dis- posed as % of filed	Filed (dis- posed) per 100,000 popu- lation
<b>MAINE: STATE TOTAL</b>													
Superior Court	G	16,392j	17,614j	16,656j	17,350j	95%j	1,554j	11,362	8,072	7,590	11,844	94%	712
District Court	L	P	225,561i	223,221i		99%i	19,908i		49,559	48,642		98%	4,374
Probate Court	L												
<b>MARYLAND: STATE TOTAL</b>													
Circuit Court	G	115,385j	144,067	122,972i	136,485j		3,379	91,453	75,336	62,262i	104,527		1,767
District Court	L		1,258,135				29,513		482,223				11,312
Orphan's Court	L												
<b>MASSACHUSETTS:</b>													
Trial Court of the Commonwealth	G	Pi	4,417,368i				76,518i		479,421i				8,304i
<b>MICHIGAN: STATE TOTAL</b>													
Circuit Court	G							NH	NH	NH	NH		
Recorder's Court of Detroit	G												
Court of Claims	G												
District Court	L												
Probate Court	L												
Municipal Court	L												
Common Pleas Court of Detroit	L												
<b>MINNESOTA:</b>													
District Court, Probate Court, County Court, County Municipal Court, and Conciliation Court	G/L	P	39,660	1,800,852i	1,783,497i	99%i	43,988i		200,101ij	182,691ij		91%ij	4,888ij
Circuit Court	G	P	716,962ij	663,695ij		93%ij	14,510ij		229,336ij	205,875ij		90%ij	4,641ij
<b>MISSOURI:</b>													
Circuit Court	G	P	24,036	35,556	27,688	78%	4,484	22,095	28,989	24,006		83%	3,656
<b>MONTANA: STATE TOTAL</b>													
District Court	L												
Justice Court	L												
City Court	L												
Municipal Court	L												
<b>NEBRASKA: STATE TOTAL</b>													
District Court	G	18,224	462,719ij	32,457j	20,894	82%j	29,342ij		89,572i	26,462i		80%i	5,680i
County Court	L	36,922	39,818j	280,609i	37,409	100%i	2,524j		32,928i	36,744		104%	2,088i
Separate Juvenile Court	L		280,609i	280,303i			17,794i		35,399				2,245
Municipal Court	L		2,105				133		NH	NH	NH		
Workmen's Compensation Court	L	85	139,943i	221	108	91%	8,874i	85	21,001	221	108	91%	1,332
<b>NEVADA: STATE TOTAL</b>													
District Court	G						15						15
Justice Court	L												
Municipal Court	L												



Superior Court	25,760	24,716	104%	2,538	16,805	17,567	105%	1,795
Probate Court	15,470			1,653	15,470			1,653
District Court	279,251			29,835	38,740			4,139
Municipal Court	10,649			1,381	874			93
<b>NEW JERSEY: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Superior Court	95,610	117,503	99,286	1,637	82,228	87,498	83,866	1,204
County District Court	424,038	413,515		5,727	52,365	367,855	45,451	4,875
Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court	21,255	203,940	20,044	2,754	6,897	91,172	6,072	1,220
Surrogate's Court								
Municipal Court	4,510,087	3,637,883		60,914				
<b>NEW MEXICO: STATE TOTAL</b>								
District Court	32,573	54,187	32,777	4,080	27,660	44,851	26,727	3,307
Magistrate Court	88,610			6,672				1,063
Municipal Court								
Probate Court								
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	358,091			26,965	0	6,364	1,926	624
<b>NEW YORK: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Supreme Court and County Court		165,708		(941)				
Surrogate's Court		79,453		(451)				(451)
Family Court	58,428	344,814	52,151	1,959	46,273	287,873	41,921	1,687
Civil Court of the City of New York		219,822		1,249		222,807		1,249
Criminal Court of the City of New York	13,580	743,667	17,698	4,225				
District Court and City Court	2,826	1,330	3,052	8	2,826	1,103	3,052	(556)
Court of Claims								8
Town and Village Justice Court								
<b>NORTH CAROLINA: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Superior Court	102,553	1,664,421	1,636,602	27,959	85,946	415,534	91,526	7,161
District Court		150,488	142,789	2,528		76,225		1,374
County Court		1,513,933	1,493,813	25,431		339,309		5,787
<b>NORTH DAKOTA: STATE TOTAL</b>								
District Court	3,993	20,271	15,156	3,081	5,462	24,559	4,373	3,931
County Probate Court		1,594	1,214	242	3,993	12,571		1,910
County Court with Increased Jurisdiction		73,285	71,897	11,138		1,214		242
County Justice Court		26,920	26,860	4,091		9,477		1,578
Municipal Court						1,289		201
<b>OHIO: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Court of Common Pleas		508,194	508,938	4,714		655,899		6,081
Municipal Court	228,085	2,085,566	2,099,839	19,345	118,616	263,879	117,275	2,451
County Court	14,784	232,119	229,602	2,153	5,535	361,521	6,647	3,341
Mayor's Court						27,507		265
Court of Claims	2,170	2,498	2,992	23	2,170	2,992	1,938	23
<b>OKLAHOMA: STATE TOTAL</b>								
District Court								
Municipal Criminal Court of Record								
Municipal Court Not of Record								
Workers' Compensation Court								
Court of Tax Review								

(continued on next page)

**TABLE 13:**  
**Reported grand total, and total civil trial court caseload, 1981. (continued)**

State and court totals														
Civil														
State and court name	Juris- dic- tion	Parking	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Dis- posed as % of filed	Filed (dis- posed) per 100,000 popu- lation	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Dis- posed as % of filed	Filed (dis- posed) per 100,000 popu- lation
<b>OREGON: STATE TOTAL</b>														
Circuit Court	G		125	103,426 <sup>i</sup>	130	253	50%	3,901 <sup>i</sup>	125	69,842 <sup>i</sup>	60,387 <sup>i</sup>	253	86%	2,635 <sup>i</sup>
Tax Court	G			258				10		258	130		50%	10
District Court	L		203,076 <sup>i</sup>	541,792 <sup>i</sup>	555,091 <sup>i</sup>	189,776 <sup>i</sup>	102%	20,437 <sup>i</sup>	28,072	88,392	89,542	26,922	101%	3,334
Justice Court	L													
County Court	L													
Municipal Court	L			232				9		167	150 <sup>i</sup>			6
<b>PENNSYLVANIA: STATE TOTAL</b>														
Court of Common Pleas	G	P	141,191	4,159,006 <sup>i</sup>	341,719	173,480	91%	35,035 <sup>i</sup>	106,142	236,356	215,510	126,988	91%	1,991
District Justice Court	L	P		374,008	1,663,651		89%	15,790		188,199	83,183	10,408	102%	(1,585)
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L		16,872 <sup>i</sup>	114,875 <sup>i</sup>	113,906 <sup>i</sup>	17,074 <sup>i</sup>	99%	968 <sup>i</sup>	11,794	81,797				689
Philadelphia Traffic Court	L	P		1,384,030	655,986		47%	11,659						
Pittsburgh City Magistrate Court	L	P		411,621 <sup>i</sup>				3,467 <sup>i</sup>		2,234				19
<b>PUERTO RICO: STATE TOTAL</b>														
Superior Court	G		51,332 <sup>i</sup>	90,335 <sup>i</sup>	90,781 <sup>i</sup>	50,886	100%	2,827 <sup>i</sup>	20,485	56,227	57,259	19,453	102%	1,759
District Court	L		35,275 <sup>i</sup>	160,914	161,607	34,582 <sup>i</sup>	100%	5,035						
Municipal Court	L													
Justices of the Peace	L													
<b>RHODE ISLAND: STATE TOTAL</b>														
Superior Court	G			13,234 <sup>j</sup>				1,389 <sup>j</sup>		7,757 <sup>j</sup>				814 <sup>j</sup>
Family Court	L			12,523 <sup>i</sup>				1,314 <sup>i</sup>		6,021 <sup>i</sup>				632 <sup>i</sup>
District Court	L			72,480 <sup>i</sup>	65,666 <sup>i</sup>		91%	7,605 <sup>i</sup>		32,072 <sup>i</sup>	26,264 <sup>i</sup>		82%	3,365 <sup>i</sup>
Probate Court	L													
Municipal Court	L													
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA: STATE TOTAL</b>														
Circuit Court	G		27,817 <sup>j</sup>	70,395 <sup>j</sup>	72,330 <sup>j</sup>	25,882 <sup>j</sup>	103%	2,223 <sup>j</sup>	19,726 <sup>j</sup>	38,465 <sup>j</sup>	38,909 <sup>j</sup>	19,282 <sup>j</sup>	101%	1,215 <sup>j</sup>
Family Court	L		14,118	54,240	53,032	15,326	98%	1,713	12,681	44,607	43,462	13,826	97%	1,408
Probate Court	L													
Magistrate Court	L	P	6,319 <sup>i</sup>	613,574 <sup>i</sup>	613,340 <sup>i</sup>	6,553 <sup>i</sup>	100%	19,374 <sup>i</sup>	2,179	99,184	98,603	2,760	99%	3,132
Municipal Court	L	P	4,618 <sup>i</sup>	299,520	298,802	5,336 <sup>i</sup>	100%	9,458						
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA: STATE TOTAL</b>														
Circuit Court	G	CP		176,970 <sup>i</sup>	165,366 <sup>i</sup>			25,797 <sup>i</sup>		36,321				5,294
<b>TENNESSEE: STATE TOTAL</b>														
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	G			90,509 <sup>j</sup>	83,146 <sup>j</sup>		92%	1,962 <sup>j</sup>		53,296 <sup>j</sup>	49,771 <sup>j</sup>		93%	1,156 <sup>j</sup>
Chancery Court	G			37,305 <sup>j</sup>	33,651 <sup>j</sup>		90%	809 <sup>j</sup>		37,305 <sup>j</sup>	33,651 <sup>j</sup>		90%	809 <sup>j</sup>
Law and Equity Court	G			4,030	4,222		105%	87		4,030	4,222		105%	87
County Court	L													
General Sessions Court	L													
Probate Court	L													
Juvenile Court	L													
Municipal Court	L													

STATES: STATE TOTAL

District Court and Criminal County Court at Law Constitutional County Court, and Probate Court ... Municipal Court ... Justice of the Peace Court ...	G	484,413	460,193	420,669	523,937	91%	3,117	402,031j	347,502j	322,269j	427,264j	93%	2,353j
UTAH: STATE TOTAL	P	880,348j					57,994j		94,464j				6,223j
District Court	P	37,059j	22,380j			60%	2,441j		33,529j	19,353j		58%	2,209j
Circuit Court	P	541,029	398,771			74%	35,641		57,746	41,635		72%	3,804
Justice of the Peace Court	P	267,412i					17,616i		3,189i				210i
Juvenile Court	L	34,848					2,296						
VERMONT: STATE TOTAL	G	36,256i	131,340	35,535i		100%	25,554	25,758i	25,672	24,862	26,568i	97%	4,975
Superior Court	G	7,948	7,921	7,904		101%	1,527	7,940	7,843	7,899	7,884	101%	1,520
District Court	G	16,504	119,543	15,364		100%	23,186	6,014	13,490	13,087	6,417	97%	2,614
Probate Court	L	11,804i	4,339	3,876		89%	841	11,804i	4,339	3,876	12,267i	89%	841
VIRGINIA: STATE TOTAL	CP	2,273,900j	2,157,965j			95%	41,877j		770,693j	720,207j		93%	14,193j
Circuit Court	L	144,580j	138,228j	139,229j		96%	2,663j		80,252	76,597		95%	1,478
District Court	CP	2,129,320i	2,019,737i			95%	39,214i		690,441j	643,610j		93%	12,715j
WASHINGTON: STATE TOTAL	P	2,063,132j	1,674,029j			81%	48,924j		216,635j	175,446j		81%	5,137j
Superior Court	G	157,137j	127,561j			81%	3,726j		116,000j	93,472j		81%	2,751j
District Court	L	862,672i	725,683i			84%	20,457i		100,635	81,974		81%	2,386
Municipal Court	P	1,043,323	820,785			79%	24,741						
WEST VIRGINIA: STATE TOTAL	G	55,948j	65,224j	55,321j		101%	3,341j	67,937	106,955	108,671	66,221	102%	5,479
Circuit Court	L	118,482i	303,093i	308,899i		102%	15,527i	44,225	49,852	49,409	44,668	99%	2,554
Magistrate Court	L							23,714	57,105	59,264	21,555	104%	2,925
Municipal Court	L												
WISCONSIN: STATE TOTAL	G	553,162j	556,264j			101%	11,665j		323,920j	333,892j		103%	6,831j
Circuit Court	L								323,920j			103%	6,831j
Municipal Court	L												
WYOMING: STATE TOTAL	G	5,712i	13,246i	14,043i	4,915i	106%	2,692i	4,949	11,474	12,227	4,196	107%	2,332
District Court	L												
Justice of the Peace Court and County Court	L												
Municipal Court	L												

Note: Mississippi is not included in this table because it did not report any civil data in 1981, and did not respond to questions in the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting; therefore, civil jurisdiction information is unavailable. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period, and therefore, did not report any data for 1981. All other state courts with civil jurisdiction are listed in this table, regardless of whether data are available. All data that are at least 90% complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. The "filled per 100,000 population" STATE TOTAL figure may not equal the sum of the individual state courts due to rounding.

The following courts count their civil cases "at issue" as opposed to the filing of the petition or complaint--District of Columbia Superior Court; New York Supreme Court and County Court and the New Jersey Superior Court.

NH = This case type is not handled by this court.  
P = Reported data include contested and uncontested parking cases.  
CP = Reported data include contested, but not uncontested parking cases.

iData are incomplete:  
Alaska--District Court--Total cases do not include limited felony cases.  
Arizona--Superior Court--All total and civil cases are missing adoption data from Maricopa County, and child victim petitions from Maricopa and Yuma Counties; additionally, filings and pending data do not include mental health cases and dispositions and pending data do not include some miscellaneous criminal cases.  
--Justice of the Peace Court--Three months of data are missing for the Glendale Precinct, and two months are missing for South Phoenix.  
Delaware--Court of Common Pleas--Total filed and disposed cases do not include all limited felony cases.  
--Municipal Court of Wilmington--Total cases do not include limited felony cases.  
--Family Court--Total cases do not include status petition and child-victim petition cases.  
District of Columbia--Pending and disposed total and civil figures do not include mental retardation cases.  
Georgia--Superior Court--Total cases do not include juvenile data from Ware and Whitfield Counties.  
Idaho--Total cases do not include limited felony cases.

(continued on next page)

**TABLE 13:  
Reported grand total, and total civil trial court caseload, 1981. (continued)**

<p>Illinois--Total cases do not include parking cases from outside Cook County.</p> <p>Indiana--Superior Court, Circuit Court and County Court--Total and civil cases do not include mental health, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal and some cases reported in the "redocketed civil" category.</p> <p>--City Court and Town Court--Total cases do not include from Albany, Delphi, Roanoke, Dunkirk, Avilla or Monon, or cases reported as "other" or "redocketed."</p> <p>Iowa--District Court--Total and civil case dispositions do not include family in need of assistance, guardianship and juvenile cases. Civil case filings do not include mental health cases.</p> <p>Kentucky--District Court--Total cases do not include limited felony cases. Total civil cases do not include paternity/bastardy cases.</p> <p>Louisiana--District Court--Total cases do not include juvenile cases.</p> <p>Maine--District Court--Total cases do not include limited felony cases.</p> <p>Maryland--Circuit Court--Total and civil cases disposed do not include civil appeals cases.</p> <p>Massachusetts--Total cases filed do not include parking cases from the Boston Municipal Court Department, or miscellaneous civil and miscellaneous criminal from the Superior Court Department. Total civil cases do not include miscellaneous civil cases from the Superior Court Department.</p> <p>Minnesota--Total cases filed and disposed do not include limited felony cases. Total civil cases do not include adoption cases.</p> <p>Missouri--Total cases do not include ordinance violation and mental health cases. Total civil cases do not include mental health, adoption and termination of parental rights cases.</p> <p>Nebraska--County Court and Municipal Court--Total filed and disposed cases do not include limited felony cases.</p> <p>--District Court--Total civil cases do not include civil appeal cases.</p> <p>New Hampshire--District Court and Municipal Court--Total cases filed do not include limited felony cases.</p> <p>New Mexico--Magistrate Court and Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court--Total cases filed do not include limited felony cases.</p> <p>New York--Supreme Court and County Court--Total cases disposed do not include civil and criminal appeals or miscellaneous criminal cases.</p> <p>--Criminal Court of the City of New York--Total cases filed do not include some ordinance violation cases.</p> <p>North Carolina--District Court--Total cases do not include all limited felony cases.</p> <p>North Dakota--District Court--Total cases disposed do not include informal juvenile cases or juvenile traffic/other violation cases.</p> <p>--County Court with increased jurisdiction and County Justice Court--Total cases do not include limited felony cases.</p> <p>Oregon--Circuit Court--Total and civil cases filed do not include support/custody cases.</p> <p>Total civil dispositions do not include adoption, mental health and support/custody cases.</p> <p>--District Court--Total cases do not include limited felony cases and County Court--Total civil cases disposed do not include adoption and mental health cases.</p> <p>Pennsylvania--Philadelphia Municipal Court and Pittsburgh City Magistrate Court--Total cases do not include limited felony cases.</p> <p>Rhode Island--District Court--Total and civil cases do not include appeal of administrative agency and mental health cases.</p> <p>--Family Court--Total and civil cases do not include paternity/bastardy cases.</p> <p>South Carolina--Municipal Court--Total cases pending do not include limited felony cases.</p> <p>--Magistrate Court--Total cases do not include limited felony and juvenile cases.</p>	<p>Wyoming--District Court--Total cases do not include juvenile cases.</p> <p>Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Total cases do not include estate cases.</p> <p>JExplanation of data included in the category:</p> <p>Alabama--Circuit Court--Total cases and civil cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>--District Court--Total cases include preliminary hearings.</p> <p>Alaska--Superior Court--Total cases include postconviction remedy. Total civil sentence review only and probation revocation proceedings. Total civil cases include postconviction remedy cases.</p> <p>--District Court--Total cases include probation revocation hearings, issuing of search warrants and other proceedings. Total civil cases disposed include some proceedings that are not cases.</p> <p>California--Justice Court--Total cases include preliminary hearings.</p> <p>--Municipal Court--Total cases include preliminary hearings.</p> <p>Connecticut--Superior Court--Total and civil cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>Delaware--Superior Court--Total cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>District of Columbia--Total pending cases include preliminary hearing proceedings.</p> <p>Georgia--Superior Court--Total and civil cases include probation revocation hearings.</p> <p>Hawaii--District Court--Total pending data include preliminary hearings.</p> <p>--Circuit Court--Total civil cases include some criminal and traffic/other violation cases.</p> <p>Idaho--Total cases include postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.</p> <p>Iowa--Data include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>Kentucky--Circuit Court--Total and civil cases include postconviction remedies, and total cases also include sentence review only proceedings.</p> <p>--District Court--Total cases include sentence review only proceedings.</p> <p>Louisiana--District Court--Total and civil cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>Maine--Superior Court--Total cases include postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.</p> <p>Maryland--Circuit Court--Total cases pending include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>Minnesota--Civil cases include criminal appeals.</p> <p>Missouri--Total and civil cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>Nebraska--District Court--Total filed and disposed cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>New Mexico--District Court--Total and civil cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>New York--Supreme Court and County Court--Total cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>North Carolina--District Court--Total cases include juvenile probation violations.</p> <p>North Dakota--District Court--Total cases include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>Ohio--Court of Common Pleas--Total and civil cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>Oregon--Circuit Court--Civil cases include criminal appeals.</p> <p>Rhode Island--Superior Court--Total and civil cases filed include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>South Carolina--Circuit Court--Total cases include postconviction remedy proceedings. Total civil cases include criminal appeals and postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>Tennessee--Circuit Court, Criminal Court and Chancery Court--Total and civil cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>Texas--All Reporting Courts--Civil cases include child-victim petitions.</p>
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South Dakota--Circuit Court--Total cases filed do not include limited felony cases. Total cases disposed do not include adoption, estate, mental health, limited felony and juvenile cases.  
Tennessee--Circuit Court and Criminal Court--Total cases filed do not include traffic/other violation cases.  
Utah--Justice of the Peace Court--Total cases filed do not include limited felony cases. Total and civil cases include monthly statistical reports from 135 of 149 Justices of the Peace.  
Vermont--Probate Court--Total and civil cases pending do not include estate cases commenced prior to January 1, 1970.  
Virginia--District Court--Total cases do not include limited felony cases.  
Washington--District Court--Total cases do not include limited felony cases.  
West Virginia--Magistrate Court--Total cases do not include limited felony cases.

Utah--District Court--Total cases include postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings. Civil cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
Virginia--Circuit Court--Total cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
--District Court--Civil cases include some miscellaneous criminal and misdemeanor cases.  
Washington--Superior Court--Total and civil cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
West Virginia--Circuit Court--Total cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
Wisconsin--Circuit Court--Total and civil cases include postconviction remedy proceedings. In addition, civil cases include some traffic/other violation appeals.

**TABLE 14:**

**Reported total criminal trial court caseload, 1981.**

*All courts. Begin pending, filed, disposed and end pending. Disposed as a percentage of filed and filed per 100,000 population.*

State and court name	Juris-diction	Unit of count	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a % of filed	Filed (dis-posed) per 100,000 popu-lation
<b>ALABAMA: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Circuit Court .....	G	2-A		31,129	27,685		89%	795
District Court .....	L	2-C		110,613 <sup>j</sup>	107,820 <sup>j</sup>		97% <sup>j</sup>	2,824 <sup>j</sup>
Municipal Court .....	L	2-C						
<b>ALASKA: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Superior Court .....	G	7-A		1,557 <sup>j</sup>	1,165 <sup>j</sup>		75% <sup>j</sup>	378 <sup>j</sup>
District Court .....	L	7-C						
<b>ARIZONA: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Superior Court .....	G	4-A	8,250 <sup>i</sup>	16,858	17,313 <sup>i</sup>	7,366 <sup>i</sup>		603
Justice of the Peace Court .....	L	1-C						
Municipal Court .....	L	1-C	58,887 <sup>i</sup>	92,714 <sup>i</sup>	72,662 <sup>i</sup>	77,936 <sup>i</sup>	78% <sup>i</sup>	3,318 <sup>i</sup>
<b>ARKANSAS: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Circuit Court .....	G	1-A	11,977	18,695	17,864	12,808	96%	814
Municipal Court .....	L	1-C						
Police Court and City Court .....	L	1-C						
<b>CALIFORNIA: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Superior Court .....	G	2-A		828,657 <sup>j</sup>	726,783 <sup>j</sup>		88% <sup>j</sup>	3,425 <sup>j</sup>
Justice Court .....	L	2-C		67,515	60,564		90%	279
Municipal Court .....	L	2-C		64,090 <sup>j</sup>	53,905 <sup>j</sup>		84% <sup>j</sup>	265 <sup>j</sup>
	L	2-C		697,052 <sup>j</sup>	612,314 <sup>j</sup>		88% <sup>j</sup>	2,881 <sup>j</sup>
<b>COLORADO: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
District Court .....	G	4-E/A	15,346	15,002	12,414	17,389	83%	506
County Court .....	L	4-C	16,497 <sup>i</sup>	39,288 <sup>i</sup>	36,331 <sup>i</sup>	20,454 <sup>i</sup>	92% <sup>i</sup>	1,325 <sup>i</sup>
<b>CONNECTICUT: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Superior Court .....	G	2-A	13,479 <sup>j</sup>	114,969 <sup>j</sup>	111,997 <sup>j</sup>	14,859 <sup>j</sup>	97% <sup>j</sup>	3,668 <sup>j</sup>
<b>DELAWARE: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Superior Court .....	G	2-A	1,326 <sup>j</sup>	3,305 <sup>j</sup>	3,300 <sup>j</sup>	1,331 <sup>j</sup>	100% <sup>j</sup>	553 <sup>j</sup>
Court of Common Pleas .....	L	1-C						
Family Court .....	L	2-C	230	2,616	2,583	263	99%	437
Municipal Court of Wilmington .....	L	1-C						
Alderman's Court .....	L	1-C						
Justice of the Peace Court .....	L	1-C		29,641	29,788		100%	4,957
<b>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:</b>								
Superior Court .....	G	2-B	4,091 <sup>j</sup>	28,758 <sup>i</sup>	27,497 <sup>i</sup>	5,352 <sup>j</sup>	96% <sup>i</sup>	4,558 <sup>i</sup>
<b>FLORIDA: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Circuit Court .....	G	5-B		352,406 <sup>i</sup>	305,105 <sup>i</sup>		87% <sup>i</sup>	3,461 <sup>i</sup>
County Court .....	L	1-C		149,999	134,340		90%	1,473
	L	1-C		202,407 <sup>i</sup>	170,765 <sup>i</sup>		84% <sup>i</sup>	1,988 <sup>i</sup>

State and court name	Juris- diction	Unit of court	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a % of filed	Filed (dis- posed) per 100,000 popu- lation
<b>GEORGIA: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Superior Court	G	7-B		54,386 <sup>1j</sup>	50,398 <sup>1j</sup>		93% <sup>1j</sup>	976 <sup>1j</sup>
State Court and County Court	L	7-C						
Probate Court	L	2-C		4,834 <sup>1</sup>	4,689 <sup>1</sup>		97% <sup>1</sup>	87 <sup>1</sup>
Justice of the Peace Court	L	N/A						
Small Claims Court	L	N/A						
Municipal Court (located in Savannah and Columbus)	L	N/A						
Magistrate's Court	L	2-C						
Civil Court	L	N/A						
Criminal Court, Municipal Court (other locations), Recorder's Court, Mayor's Court, City Council Court, and Police Court	L	N/A						
<b>GUAM:</b>								
Superior Court	G	N/A	675	1,394	525	869	38%	
<b>HAWAII: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Circuit Court	G	2-B	9,545 <sup>1</sup>	27,933 <sup>1</sup>	27,202 <sup>1</sup>	10,276 <sup>1</sup>	97% <sup>1</sup>	2,847 <sup>1</sup>
District Court	L	2-B	3,972 <sup>1</sup>	2,711 <sup>1</sup>	1,872 <sup>1</sup>	4,811 <sup>1</sup>	69% <sup>1</sup>	276 <sup>1</sup>
			5,573 <sup>1</sup>	25,222 <sup>1</sup>	25,330 <sup>1</sup>	5,465 <sup>1</sup>	100% <sup>1</sup>	2,571 <sup>1</sup>
<b>IDAHO: STATE TOTAL</b>								
District Court	G	4-B						
<b>ILLINOIS:</b>								
Circuit Court	G	9-A						
<b>INDIANA: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	7-A	88,524 <sup>1j</sup>	182,349 <sup>1j</sup>	159,418 <sup>1j</sup>	111,926 <sup>1j</sup>	87% <sup>1j</sup>	3,335 <sup>1j</sup>
County Court	L	7-B	27,420 <sup>1</sup>	35,679 <sup>1</sup>	35,455 <sup>1</sup>	27,986 <sup>1</sup>	99% <sup>1</sup>	653 <sup>1</sup>
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	7-B	23,403 <sup>1j</sup>	49,773 <sup>1j</sup>	47,437 <sup>1j</sup>	25,844 <sup>1j</sup>	95% <sup>1j</sup>	910 <sup>1j</sup>
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L	N/A	28,819 <sup>j</sup>	52,506 <sup>j</sup>	44,817 <sup>j</sup>	36,508 <sup>j</sup>	85% <sup>j</sup>	960 <sup>j</sup>
City Court and Town Court	L	4-B	10 <sup>1</sup>	1,185	930	265 <sup>1</sup>	78%	22
			8,872 <sup>1</sup>	43,206 <sup>1</sup>	30,779 <sup>1</sup>	21,323 <sup>1</sup>	71% <sup>1</sup>	790 <sup>1</sup>
<b>IOWA:</b>								
District Court	G	2-A		36,932 <sup>1</sup>	34,193 <sup>1</sup>		93% <sup>1</sup>	1,274 <sup>1</sup>
<b>KANSAS: STATE TOTAL</b>								
District Court	G	2-E/A	7,728 <sup>1</sup>	32,870	30,538 <sup>1</sup>	5,245 <sup>1</sup>		1,379
<b>KENTUCKY: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Circuit Court	G	2-A		13,604 <sup>j</sup>	11,973 <sup>j</sup>		88% <sup>j</sup>	371 <sup>j</sup>
District Court	L	2-C						
<b>LOUISIANA: STATE TOTAL</b>								
District Court	G	11-A		386,363				8,969
City Court, Parish Court and Municipal Court of New Orleans	L	7-B		38,394 <sup>1</sup>	32,913 <sup>1</sup>		86% <sup>1</sup>	891 <sup>1</sup>

(continued on next page)

TABLE 14:  
Reported total criminal trial court caseload, 1981. (continued)

State and court name	Juris- diction	Unit of count	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a % of filed	Filed (dis- posed) per 100,000 popu- lation
<b>MAINE: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Superior Court .....	G	2-A	3,755 <sup>1j</sup>	6,062 <sup>1j</sup>	5,752 <sup>1j</sup>	4,065 <sup>1j</sup>	95% <sup>1j</sup>	535 <sup>1j</sup>
District Court .....	L	9-B						
<b>MARYLAND: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Circuit Court .....	G	2-A	17,780 <sup>1j</sup>	174,930 <sup>1j</sup>	40,497	23,217 <sup>1j</sup>	88%	4,103 <sup>1j</sup>
District Court .....	L	2-B		45,933	128,997 <sup>1j</sup>			1,078
<b>MASSACHUSETTS: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Trial Court of the Commonwealth .....	G	2-B		303,709 <sup>1j</sup>				5,261 <sup>1j</sup>
<b>MICHIGAN: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Recorder's Court of Detroit .....	G							
District Court .....	L							
Municipal Court .....	L							
<b>MINNESOTA: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
District Court .....	G	2-C		12,763 <sup>1</sup>	10,073 <sup>1</sup>		79% <sup>1</sup>	312 <sup>1</sup>
County Court .....	L	1-C						
County Municipal Court .....	L	1-C						
<b>MISSOURI:</b>								
Circuit Court .....	G	11-B		81,263 <sup>j</sup>	74,955 <sup>j</sup>		92% <sup>j</sup>	1,645 <sup>j</sup>
<b>MONTANA: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
District Court .....	G	7-A	1,098	3,238	2,725	1,519	84%	408
Justice of the Peace Court .....	L	2-C						
City Court .....	L	2-C						
Municipal Court .....	L	2-C						
<b>NEBRASKA: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
District Court .....	G	2-A		6,890 <sup>j</sup>	5,917 <sup>j</sup>		86% <sup>j</sup>	437 <sup>j</sup>
County Court .....	L	2-B		46,393 <sup>1j</sup>	46,241 <sup>1j</sup>		100% <sup>1j</sup>	2,942 <sup>1j</sup>
Municipal Court .....	L	2-C						
<b>NEVADA: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
District Court .....	G	11-A						
Justice Court .....	L	11-C						
Municipal Court .....	L	11-C						
<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Superior Court .....	G	1-A		6,955	7,149		103%	743
District Court .....	L	1-C						
Municipal Court .....	L	1-C		1,408 <sup>1</sup>				150 <sup>1</sup>
<b>NEW JERSEY: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Superior Court .....	G	2-B	13,382	445,410 <sup>1j</sup>	410,160 <sup>1j</sup>	15,420	92% <sup>1j</sup>	6,016 <sup>1j</sup>
County District Court .....	L	2-C		32,043	30,005		94%	433
Municipal Court .....	L	2-C		3,391 <sup>1j</sup>	3,730 <sup>1j</sup>		110% <sup>1j</sup>	46 <sup>1j</sup>
				409,980 <sup>1j</sup>	376,429 <sup>1j</sup>		92% <sup>1j</sup>	5,537 <sup>1j</sup>
<b>NEW MEXICO: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
District Court .....	G	2-C	2,601	5,927	5,001	3,527	84%	446
Magistrate Court .....	L	2-C						
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court ..	L	2-C		31,024 <sup>1j</sup>				2,336 <sup>1j</sup>



State and court name	Juris- diction	Unit of count	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a % of filed	Filed (dis- posed) per 100,000 popu- lation
<b>NEW YORK: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Supreme Court and County Court	G	7-A		41,587 <sup>f</sup>	42,085 <sup>f</sup>		101% <sup>f</sup>	236 <sup>i</sup>
Criminal Court of the City of New York	L	9-D		189,051	182,109		96%	1,074
District Court and City Court	L	2-C		210,902 <sup>j</sup>	169,343 <sup>j</sup>		80% <sup>j</sup>	1,198 <sup>j</sup>
Town and Village Justice Court	L	1-C						
<b>NORTH CAROLINA: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Superior Court	G	2-A	66,654 <sup>fj</sup>	445,679 <sup>fj</sup>	429,555 <sup>fj</sup>	82,778 <sup>fj</sup>	96% <sup>fj</sup>	7,487 <sup>fj</sup>
District Court	L	3-C	16,605	68,685	66,564	18,726	97%	1,154
			50,049 <sup>fj</sup>	376,994 <sup>fj</sup>	362,991 <sup>fj</sup>	64,052 <sup>fj</sup>	96% <sup>fj</sup>	6,333 <sup>fj</sup>
<b>NORTH DAKOTA: STATE TOTAL</b>								
District Court	G	2-A	296 <sup>j</sup>	1,327 <sup>j</sup>	1,326 <sup>j</sup>	298 <sup>j</sup>	100% <sup>j</sup>	202 <sup>j</sup>
County Court with Increased Jurisdiction	L	5-B	2,391 <sup>j</sup>	11,627 <sup>f</sup>	11,146 <sup>f</sup>	2,900 <sup>j</sup>	96% <sup>f</sup>	1,767 <sup>f</sup>
County Justice Court	L	2-C	1,085 <sup>fj</sup>	2,727 <sup>f</sup>	2,700 <sup>f</sup>	1,088 <sup>fj</sup>	99% <sup>f</sup>	414 <sup>f</sup>
Municipal Court	L	2-C						
<b>OHIO: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Court of Common Pleas	G	2-E	9,963	41,076	41,492	9,547	101%	381
Municipal Court	L	2-C	50,580 <sup>j</sup>	378,892 <sup>j</sup>	380,686 <sup>j</sup>	48,786 <sup>j</sup>	100% <sup>j</sup>	3,514 <sup>j</sup>
County Court	L	2-C	4,283 <sup>j</sup>	41,939 <sup>j</sup>	41,286 <sup>j</sup>	4,936 <sup>j</sup>	98% <sup>j</sup>	389 <sup>j</sup>
Mayor's Court	L	N/A						
<b>OKLAHOMA: STATE TOTAL</b>								
District Court	G	9-A						
<b>OREGON: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Circuit Court	G	5-B		20,198 <sup>f</sup>	19,549 <sup>f</sup>		97% <sup>f</sup>	762 <sup>f</sup>
District Court	L	5-B						
Justice Court	L	5-C						
Municipal Court	L	1-C						
<b>PENNSYLVANIA: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Court of Common Pleas	G	2-A/D	18,176	89,673	78,103	39,746	87%	755
District Justice Court	L	2-C			148,637 <sup>j</sup>			(1,252) <sup>j</sup>
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	2-C						
Pittsburgh City Magistrate Court	L	2-C						
<b>PUERTO RICO: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Superior Court	G	1-C	21,821 <sup>fj</sup>	74,295 <sup>fj</sup>	74,739 <sup>fj</sup>	21,377 <sup>fj</sup>	101% <sup>fj</sup>	2,325 <sup>fj</sup>
District Court	L	1-C	13,793	21,441	21,830	13,404	102%	671
			8,028 <sup>fj</sup>	52,854 <sup>fj</sup>	52,909 <sup>fj</sup>	7,973 <sup>fj</sup>	100% <sup>fj</sup>	1,654 <sup>fj</sup>
<b>RHODE ISLAND: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Superior Court	G	4-A		45,885 <sup>j</sup>	43,580 <sup>j</sup>		95% <sup>j</sup>	4,814 <sup>j</sup>
District Court	L	1-C		5,477	4,178		76%	575
				40,408 <sup>j</sup>	39,402 <sup>j</sup>		98% <sup>j</sup>	4,240 <sup>j</sup>
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA: STATE TOTAL</b>								
Circuit Court	G	2-A	8,091 <sup>f</sup>	192,038 <sup>f</sup>	33,421 <sup>f</sup>	6,600 <sup>f</sup>	105% <sup>f</sup>	6,064 <sup>f</sup>
Magistrate Court	L	2-C		31,930 <sup>f</sup>				1,008 <sup>f</sup>
Municipal Court	L	2-C		108,594				3,429
				51,514				1,627
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA:</b>								
Circuit Court	G	2-C						

(continued on next page)

TABLE 14:  
Reported total criminal trial court caseload, 1981. (continued)

State and court name	Juris- diction	Unit of count	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a % of filed	Filed (dis- posed) per 100,000 popu- lation
<b>TENNESSEE: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Circuit Court and Criminal Court .....	G	11-A		37,213 <sup>i</sup>	33,375 <sup>i</sup>		90% <sup>i</sup>	807 <sup>i</sup>
General Sessions Court .....	L	N/A						
Municipal Court .....	L	N/A						
<b>TEXAS: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
District Court and Criminal District Court .....	G	2-A	74,993	101,387	87,922	88,458	87%	687
County Court at Law and Constitutional County Court .....	L	5-B		332,259				2,250
Municipal Court .....	L	1-C						
Justice of the Peace Court .....	L	1-C						
<b>UTAH: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
District Court .....	G	9-A		54,092 <sup>j</sup>				3,563 <sup>j</sup>
Circuit Court .....	L	9-B		3,530 <sup>j</sup>	3,027 <sup>j</sup>		86% <sup>j</sup>	233 <sup>j</sup>
Justice of the Peace Court .....	L	2-C		9,851 <sup>i</sup>				649 <sup>i</sup>
				40,711 <sup>j</sup>				2,682 <sup>j</sup>
<b>VERMONT: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Superior Court .....	G	2-A	4,512 <sup>j</sup>	19,648 <sup>j</sup>	19,135 <sup>j</sup>	3,236 <sup>j</sup>	97% <sup>j</sup>	3,807 <sup>j</sup>
District Court .....	G	1-E	8	34	22	20	65%	7
			4,504 <sup>j</sup>	19,614 <sup>j</sup>	19,113 <sup>j</sup>	3,216 <sup>j</sup>	97% <sup>j</sup>	3,801 <sup>j</sup>
<b>VIRGINIA: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Circuit Court .....	G	1-A		64,328 <sup>j</sup>	61,631 <sup>j</sup>		96% <sup>j</sup>	1,185 <sup>j</sup>
District Court .....	L	1-C						
<b>WASHINGTON: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Superior Court .....	G	7-A		16,713	15,502		93%	396
District Court .....	L	3-C		112,848 <sup>i</sup>	80,253 <sup>i</sup>		71% <sup>i</sup>	2,676 <sup>i</sup>
Municipal Court .....	L	3-C						
<b>WEST VIRGINIA: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Circuit Court .....	G	9-A	7,780 <sup>j</sup>	7,726 <sup>j</sup>	9,184 <sup>j</sup>	6,322 <sup>j</sup>	119% <sup>j</sup>	396 <sup>j</sup>
Magistrate Court .....	L	9-C	68,339 <sup>i</sup>	131,450 <sup>i</sup>	143,638 <sup>i</sup>	56,151 <sup>i</sup>	109% <sup>i</sup>	6,734 <sup>i</sup>
Municipal Court .....	L	1-C						
<b>WISCONSIN: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Circuit Court .....	G	2-E		48,873 <sup>i</sup>	45,999 <sup>i</sup>		94% <sup>i</sup>	1,031 <sup>i</sup>
Municipal Court .....	L	1-C						
<b>WYOMING: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
District Court .....	G	9-A	763	1,772	1,816	719	102%	360
Justice of the Peace Court and County Court .....	L	9-B						
Municipal Court .....	L	1-C						

Note: Mississippi is not included in this table because it did not report any criminal data in 1981, and did not respond to questions in the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting; therefore, criminal jurisdiction information is unavailable. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period, and therefore, did not report any data for 1981. All other state courts with criminal jurisdiction are listed in this table, regardless of whether data are available. All data that are at least 90% complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. The "filed per 100,000 population" STATE TOTAL figure may not equal the sum of the individual state courts due to rounding.

NH = This case type is not handled by this court.  
 N/A = Information is unavailable.  
 -- = Not applicable.

**Criminal case unit of count codes:**

Contents of case (number of defendants/number of charges) - Point at which case is counted

Contents of case:

1. Single defendant/single charge
2. Single defendant/single incident
3. Single defendant/single incident (maximum number of charges)
4. Single defendant/one or more incidents
5. Single defendant/varies with prosecutor
6. One or more defendants/single charge
7. One or more defendants/single incident
8. One or more defendants/single incident (maximum number of charges)
9. One or more defendants/one or more incidents
10. One or more defendants/varies with prosecutor
11. Varies with prosecutor/varies with prosecutor

Point at which case is counted:

- A. At the filing of the information or indictment
- B. At the filing of the information or complaint
- C. At the filing of the complaint (warrant or accusation)
- D. At the assigning of a docket number
- E. At the arraignment (first appearance)

**Data are incomplete:**

Arizona--Pending and disposed data do not include petitions for order of protection for the Superior Court and Municipal Court. In addition, no data were reported for January for the court located in Snowflake or for December for South Tucson Municipal Courts. DWI/DUI cases are not included in the Municipal Court data.

California--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.

Colorado--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.

Connecticut--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.

District of Columbia--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.

Florida--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.

Georgia--Superior Court--Data do not include all DWI/DUI cases.

--Probate Court--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.

Hawaii--Circuit Court--Data do not include some cases included with unclassified civil cases.

--District Court--Some misdemeanor data are included in the ordinance violation category.

Indiana--Superior Court--Data do not include criminal appeals and miscellaneous criminal cases.

--County Court--Data do not include miscellaneous criminal cases.

--City Court and Town Court--Data do not include data from six courts, or a small number included in redocketed proceedings.

--Small Claims Court of Marion County--Pending data do not include part of nine cases that could not be identified by case type.

Iowa--Some misdemeanors are included in a traffic category.

Kansas--Pending and disposed data do not include DWI/DUI cases.

Louisiana--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.

Maine--Superior Court--Data do not include DWI/DUI and some criminal appeals.

Maryland--Circuit Court--Pending cases do not include adult offenses against juveniles.

--District Court--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.

Massachusetts--Data do not include miscellaneous criminal cases from the Superior Court Department, and DWI/DUI cases from the Housing Court and District Court Departments.

Minnesota--Data do not include criminal appeal cases.

Nebraska--County Court--Data do not include limited felony cases.

New Hampshire--Data do not include limited felony and DWI/DUI cases.

New Jersey--County District Court and Municipal Court--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.

New Mexico--Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court--Data do not include limited felony cases.

New York--Data do not include miscellaneous criminal and appeals filed in the County Court.

North Carolina--Data do not include all limited felony cases.

North Dakota--County Court with Increased Jurisdiction--Data do not include limited felony cases.

--County Justice Court--Pending data do not include DWI/DUI cases. Filed and disposed cases do not include limited felony cases.

Oregon--Data do not include criminal appeal cases.

Puerto Rico--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.

South Carolina--Data do not include criminal appeal cases.

Tennessee--Data do not include miscellaneous criminal cases.

Utah--Circuit Court--Data do not include miscellaneous criminal cases.

--Justice of the Peace Court--Data do not include data from 14 justices and a few limited felony cases.

Washington--Data do not include limited felony cases.

West Virginia--Data do not include limited felony cases.

Wisconsin--Data do not include most DWI/DUI or traffic appeal cases.

**Explanation of data included in the category:**

Alabama--District Court--Data include preliminary hearings.

Alaska--Superior Court--Data include probation revocation hearings and sentence review only proceedings.

(continued on next page)

**TABLE 14:**  
**Reported total criminal trial court caseload, 1981. (continued)**

<p>California--Data include some ordinance violations and preliminary hearing proceedings.</p> <p>Connecticut--Data include ordinance violation cases.</p> <p>Delaware--Superior Court--Data include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>District of Columbia--Pending data include preliminary hearings.</p> <p>Georgia--Superior Court--Data include ordinance violation cases.</p> <p>Indiana--County Court--Data include ordinance violation cases.  --Municipal Court of Marion County--Data include ordinance violation cases.</p> <p>Kentucky--Data include postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.</p> <p>Maine--Superior Court--Data include ordinance violation cases, and postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.</p> <p>Maryland--Circuit Court--Pending data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  --District Court--Data include ordinance violation cases.</p> <p>Massachusetts--Data include ordinance violations from the District Court Department.</p> <p>Missouri--Data include ordinance violation cases that demand a jury trial.</p> <p>Nebraska--District Court--Data include civil appeal cases and postconviction remedy proceedings.  --County Court--Data include ordinance violation cases.</p>	<p>New Jersey--County District Court and Municipal Court--Data include ordinance violation cases.</p> <p>New Mexico--Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court--Data include ordinance violation cases.</p> <p>New York--Data include ordinance violation cases.</p> <p>North Carolina--Data include ordinance violation cases. In addition, pending data also include preliminary hearing proceedings.</p> <p>North Dakota--District Court--Data include postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.  --County Court with Increased Jurisdiction and County Justice Court--Pending data include preliminary hearing proceedings.</p> <p>Ohio--Data include ordinance violation cases.</p> <p>Pennsylvania--Data include ordinance violation cases.</p> <p>Puerto Rico--Data include ordinance violation cases.</p> <p>Rhode Island--Data include some traffic and ordinance violation cases.</p> <p>Utah--District Court--Data include postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.  --Justice of the Peace--Data include ordinance violation cases.</p> <p>Vermont--Data include ordinance violation cases.</p> <p>Virginia--Data include some ordinance violation cases, and postconviction remedy proceedings.</p> <p>West Virginia--Data include postconviction remedy proceedings.</p>
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TABLE 15:

Reported total traffic/other violation trial court caseload, 1981.

All courts. Begin pending, filed, disposed and end pending. Disposed as a percentage of filed and filed per 100,000 population.

State and court name	Juris- diction	Park- ing	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a % of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
ALABAMA: STATE TOTAL .....								
District Court .....	L			259,935	248,355		96%	6,636
Municipal Court .....	L							
ALASKA: STATE TOTAL .....		CP						
District Court .....	L	CP						
ARIZONA: STATE TOTAL .....								
Justice of the Peace Court .....	L							
City Magistrate Court .....	L							
ARKANSAS: STATE TOTAL .....								
Municipal Court .....	L							
Police Court and City Court .....	L							
CALIFORNIA: STATE TOTAL .....		P						
Justice Court .....	L	P		520,257 <sup>1j</sup>	442,014 <sup>1j</sup>		85% <sup>1j</sup>	2,150 <sup>1j</sup>
Municipal Court .....	L	P		15,112,975 <sup>1j</sup>	13,020,937 <sup>1j</sup>		86% <sup>1j</sup>	62,461 <sup>1j</sup>
COLORADO: STATE TOTAL .....								
County Court .....	L		64,229 <sup>j</sup>	182,321 <sup>j</sup>	177,503 <sup>j</sup>	69,047 <sup>j</sup>	97% <sup>j</sup>	6,149 <sup>j</sup>
Municipal Court .....	L							
CONNECTICUT: STATE TOTAL .....								
Superior Court .....	G							
DELAWARE: STATE TOTAL .....		P						
Family Court .....	L	P	154	727	790	91	109%	122
Municipal Court of Wilmington ...	L	P						
Alderman's Court .....	L	P						
Justice of the Peace Court .....	L			101,586	101,822		100%	16,988
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:								
Superior Court .....	G		1,430 <sup>j</sup>	14,406 <sup>j</sup>	14,326 <sup>j</sup>	1,510 <sup>j</sup>	99% <sup>j</sup>	2,283 <sup>j</sup>
FLORIDA: STATE TOTAL .....								
County Court .....	L			2,383,750 <sup>j</sup>	2,171,094 <sup>j</sup>		91% <sup>j</sup>	23,409 <sup>j</sup>
GEORGIA: STATE TOTAL .....								
Superior Court .....	G							
State Court and County Court ....	L			194,896 <sup>1j</sup>	187,027 <sup>1j</sup>		96% <sup>1j</sup>	3,497 <sup>1j</sup>
Probate Court .....	L			155,424 <sup>j</sup>	148,199 <sup>j</sup>		95% <sup>j</sup>	2,788 <sup>j</sup>
Juvenile Court .....	L							
Magistrate's Court .....	L							
Criminal Court, Municipal Court (other locations), Recorder's Court, Mayor's Court, City Council Court, and Police Court .....	L							

(continued on next page)

TABLE 15:  
Reported total traffic/other violation trial court caseload, 1981. (continued)

State and court name	Juris- diction	Park- ing	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a % of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
<b>GUAM:</b>								
Superior Court .....	G		14,623	37,214	22,913	14,301	62%	
<b>HAWAII: STATE TOTAL .....</b>								
Circuit Court .....	G	P						
District Court .....	L	P	136,211j	800,222j	817,168j	119,265j	102%j	81,572j
<b>IDAHO: STATE TOTAL .....</b>								
District Court .....	G	CP						
<b>ILLINOIS:</b>								
Circuit Court .....	G							
<b>INDIANA: STATE TOTAL .....</b>								
Superior Court and Circuit Court .....	G	P	19,322	95,218	97,878	16,673	103%	1,741
County Court .....	L	P						
Municipal Court of Marion County .....	L	P						
City Court and Town Court .....	L	P						
<b>IOWA:</b>								
District Court .....	G	CP			742,526j			(25,613)j
<b>KANSAS: STATE TOTAL .....</b>								
District Court .....	G			277,678j	279,976j		101%j	11,652j
Municipal Court .....	L							
<b>KENTUCKY: STATE TOTAL .....</b>								
District Court .....	L	CP CP						
<b>LOUISIANA: STATE TOTAL .....</b>								
City Court, Parish Court, Municipal Court and Traffic Court of New Orleans .....	L			585,320j	475,289j		81%j	31,587j
Justice of the Peace Court .....	L							
Mayor's Court .....	L							
<b>MAINE: STATE TOTAL .....</b>								
Superior Court .....	G							
District Court .....	L	P	145,617j		144,416j		99%j	12,852j
<b>MARYLAND: STATE TOTAL .....</b>								
District Court .....	L							
<b>MASSACHUSETTS: STATE TOTAL .....</b>								
Trial Court of the Commonwealth .	G							
<b>MICHIGAN: STATE TOTAL .....</b>								
Recorder's Court of Detroit .....	G							
District Court .....	L							
Probate Court .....	L							
Municipal Court .....	L							

State and court name	Juris- diction	Park- ing	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a % of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
MINNESOTA: STATE TOTAL .....		P						
County Court .....	L	P						
County Municipal Court .....	L	P						
MISSOURI:								
Circuit Court .....	G	P						
MONTANA: STATE TOTAL .....								
Justice of the Peace Court .....	L							
City Court .....	L							
Municipal Court .....	L							
NEBRASKA: STATE TOTAL .....								
County Court .....	L							
Municipal Court .....	L			118,942 <sup>j</sup>				7,542 <sup>j</sup>
NEVADA: STATE TOTAL .....								
Justice Court .....	L							
Municipal Court .....	L							
NEW HAMPSHIRE: STATE TOTAL .....		CP						
District Court .....	L	CP		214,033 <sup>j</sup>				22,866 <sup>j</sup>
Municipal Court .....	L	CP		205,666 <sup>j</sup>				21,973 <sup>j</sup>
				8,367 <sup>j</sup>				894 <sup>j</sup>
NEW JERSEY: STATE TOTAL .....								
County District Court .....	L	CP						
Municipal Court .....	L	P						
NEW MEXICO: STATE TOTAL .....								
Magistrate Court .....	L			42,379				3,191
Municipal Court .....	L							
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court .....	L	P						
NEW YORK: STATE TOTAL .....								
Criminal Court of the City of New York .....	L							
District Court and City Court ...	L							
Town and Village Justice Court ..	L							
NORTH CAROLINA: STATE TOTAL .....		CP						
District Court .....	L	CP						
NORTH DAKOTA: STATE TOTAL .....								
District Court .....	G			481				73
County Court with Increased Jurisdiction .....	L			51,274	51,274		100%	7,792
County Justice Court .....	L			22,871	22,871		100%	3,476
Municipal Court .....	L							
OHIO: STATE TOTAL .....								
Court of Common Pleas .....	G							
Municipal Court .....	L	P						
County Court .....	L							
Mayor's Court .....	L							

TABLE 15:  
Reported total traffic/other violation trial court caseload, 1981. (continued)

State and court name	Juris- diction	Park- ing	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a % of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
<b>OKLAHOMA: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
District Court .....	G							
Municipal Criminal Court of Record .....	L							
Municipal Court Not of Record .	L							
<b>OREGON: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
District Court .....	L							
Justice Court .....	L							
Municipal Court .....	L							
<b>PENNSYLVANIA: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
District Justice Court .....	L	P						
Philadelphia Municipal Court ..	L	P			1,326,815 <sup>f</sup>			(11,177) <sup>f</sup>
Philadelphia Traffic Court ....	L	P		1,384,030	655,986		47%	11,659
Pittsburgh City Magistrate Court .....	L	P		396,627 <sup>f</sup>				3,341 <sup>f</sup>
<b>PUERTO RICO: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
District Court .....	L							
Municipal Court .....	L							
<b>RHODE ISLAND: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Municipal Court .....	L							
District Court .....	L							
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA: STATE TOTAL</b> ....								
Family Court .....	L							
Magistrate Court .....	L	P		405,796				12,813
Municipal Court .....	L	P		248,006				7,831
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA:</b>								
Circuit Court .....	G	CP		127,044 <sup>j</sup>	126,458 <sup>j</sup>		100% <sup>j</sup>	18,520 <sup>j</sup>
<b>TENNESSEE: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Circuit Court and Criminal Court .....	G							
General Sessions Court .....	L							
Municipal Court .....	L							
<b>TEXAS: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
County Court at Law and Constitutional County Court .	L	P	20,532 <sup>j</sup>	19,150	50,356 <sup>j</sup>	24,975 <sup>j</sup>		130
Municipal Court .....	L							
Justice of the Peace Court ....	L							
<b>UTAH: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Circuit Court .....	L	P		473,432 <sup>j</sup>				31,188 <sup>j</sup>
Justice of the Peace Court ....	L	P						
Juvenile Court .....	L			7,768				512
<b>VERMONT: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
District Court .....	G	CP						
<b>VIRGINIA: STATE TOTAL</b> .....								
Circuit Court .....	G	CP						
District Court .....	L	CP						



State and court name	Juris- diction	Park- ing	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a % of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
WASHINGTON: STATE TOTAL .....		P		1,682,357 <sup>J</sup>	1,377,110 <sup>J</sup>		82% <sup>J</sup>	39,895 <sup>J</sup>
District Court .....	L	P		649,189	563,456		87%	15,395
Municipal Court .....	L	P		1,033,168 <sup>J</sup>	813,656 <sup>J</sup>		79%	24,500 <sup>J</sup>
WEST VIRGINIA: STATE TOTAL .....								
Magistrate Court .....	L		26,429	114,538	105,997	34,970	93%	5,868
Municipal Court .....	L							
WISCONSIN: STATE TOTAL .....								
Circuit Court .....	G	P		152,033 <sup>J</sup>	148,948 <sup>J</sup>		98% <sup>J</sup>	3,206 <sup>J</sup>
Municipal Court .....	L							
WYOMING: STATE TOTAL .....								
Justice of the Peace Court and County Court .....	L							
Municipal Court .....	L							

Note: Mississippi is not included in this table because it did not report any traffic/other violation data in 1981, and did not respond to questions in the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting; therefore, information on traffic/other violation information is unavailable. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report any data for 1981. All other state courts with traffic/other violation information are listed in this table, regardless of whether complete data are available. All data that are at least 90% complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. The "filed per 100,000 population" STATE TOTAL figure may not equal the sum of the individual state courts due to rounding.

P = Reported data include contested and uncontested parking cases.  
 CP = Reported data include contested, but not uncontested parking cases.

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

California--Data do not include some ordinance violation cases counted as misdemeanors.  
 Georgia--State Court--Data do not include data from DeKalb County.  
 Kansas--Data do not include juvenile traffic cases.  
 Pennsylvania--Some ordinance violation cases are included in the criminal case count.

<sup>J</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:

California--Data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Colorado--Data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 District of Columbia--Data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Florida--Data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Georgia--State Court and Probate Court--Data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Hawaii--Data include some misdemeanor cases.  
 Iowa--Disposed data include some misdemeanor cases.  
 Kansas--Data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Louisiana--Data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Maine--Data include DWI/DUI cases and some misdemeanor cases.  
 Nebraska--Data include DWI/DUI cases and misdemeanor cases.  
 New Hampshire--Data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 South Dakota--Data include some misdemeanor and criminal appeal cases.  
 Texas--Pending and disposed data include traffic appeal cases.  
 Utah--Data include some miscellaneous criminal cases.  
 Washington--Data include some misdemeanor cases.  
 Wisconsin--Data include DWI/DUI cases.

TABLE 16:

## Reported total juvenile trial court caseload, 1981.

All courts. Begin pending, filed, disposed and end pending. Disposed as a percentage of filed and filed per 100,000 population.

State and court name	Jurisdiction	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a % of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
Juvenile cases are counted at the filing of the petition in the following courts:							
-----							
ALABAMA: STATE TOTAL .....			46,491	49,130		106%	1,187
Circuit Court .....	G		21,386	24,842		116%	546
District Court .....	L		25,105	24,288		97%	641
ALASKA:							
Superior Court .....	G		1,314	1,052		80%	319
ARIZONA:							
Superior Court .....	G	2,668 <sup>i</sup>	8,413 <sup>i</sup>	8,771 <sup>i</sup>	2,310 <sup>i</sup>	104% <sup>i</sup>	301 <sup>i</sup>
CALIFORNIA:							
Superior Court .....	G		70,823	63,698		90%	293
COLORADO:							
District Court, Denver Superior Court, Denver Juvenile Court, and Denver Probate Court .....	G		12,513	10,598		85%	422
DELAWARE:							
Family Court .....	L						
FLORIDA:							
Circuit Court .....	G		63,257	64,688		102%	621
GUAM:							
Superior Court .....	G	213	803	209	594	26%	
IDAHO:							
District Court .....	G	3,654	7,488	9,232	1,870	123%	781
ILLINOIS:							
Circuit Court .....	G	22,382	33,210	30,434	27,174	92%	290
INDIANA: STATE TOTAL .....		18,514	26,350	25,799	19,126	98%	482
Superior Court and Circuit Court ..	G	16,935	25,138	24,498	17,636	97%	460
Probate Court .....	L	1,579	1,212	1,301	1,490	107%	22
IOWA:							
District Court .....	G		5,496				190
KANSAS:							
District Court .....	G		12,518 <sup>j</sup>	10,198 <sup>j</sup>		81% <sup>j</sup>	525 <sup>j</sup>
KENTUCKY:							
District Court .....	L		37,931 <sup>j</sup>	31,834 <sup>j</sup>		84% <sup>j</sup>	1,036 <sup>j</sup>
LOUISIANA: STATE TOTAL .....							
District Court .....	G						470 <sup>j</sup>
Family Court and Juvenile Court ...	L		20,243 <sup>j</sup>				97
City Court .....	L		4,159	3,757			
MAINE:							
District Court .....	L		3,864	3,795		98%	341

State and court name	Jurisdiction	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a % of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
MARYLAND: STATE TOTAL .....			25,201	21,738		86%	591
Circuit Court .....	G	6,152j	22,798	20,213	8,741j	89%	535
District Court .....	L		2,403	1,525		63%	56
MINNESOTA:							
District Court and County Court .	G/L		21,863j	22,378j		102%j	534j
MISSOURI:							
Circuit Court .....	G	9,269j	17,596j	17,474j	9,391j	99%j	356j
MONTANA:							
District Court .....	G	843	1,329	957	1,162	72%	168
NEBRASKA: STATE TOTAL .....			5,657				358
County Court .....	L		3,552	3,675		103%	225
Separate Juvenile Court .....	L		2,105				133
NEVADA:							
District Court .....	G						
NEW HAMPSHIRE:							
District Court .....	L		7,428				794
NEW MEXICO:							
District Court .....	G	2,312	4,342	4,131	2,523	95%	327
NEW YORK:							
Family Court .....	L	12,155	47,931	55,653	10,230	116%	272
NORTH CAROLINA:							
District Court .....	L		19,013	22,271j			319
NORTH DAKOTA:							
District Court .....	G		5,892				895
OREGON: STATE TOTAL .....			13,449				507
Circuit Court .....	G		13,386				505
County Court .....	L		63				2
PUERTO RICO:							
Superior Court .....	G	1,107	6,240	5,862	1,485	94%	195
SOUTH CAROLINA: STATE TOTAL .....							
Family Court .....	L	1,437j	9,633j	9,570j	1,500j	99%j	304j
Magistrate Court .....	L						
SOUTH DAKOTA:							
Circuit Court .....	G		1,880				274
TEXAS: STATE TOTAL .....							
District Court .....	G						
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court, and Probate Court .....	L						
UTAH:							
Juvenile Court .....	L		27,080				1,784

(continued on next page)

TABLE 16:  
Reported total juvenile trial court caseload, 1981. (continued)

State and court name	Jurisdiction	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a % of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
<b>VERMONT:</b>							
District Court .....	G	156	1,412	1,303	265	92%	274
<b>VIRGINIA:</b>							
District Court .....	L		133,471	120,474		90%	2,458
<b>WASHINGTON:</b>							
Superior Court .....	G		24,424	18,587		76%	579
<b>WEST VIRGINIA:</b>							
Circuit Court .....	G	3,943	7,646	7,258	4,331	95%	392
<b>WISCONSIN:</b>							
Circuit Court .....	G		28,336	27,425		97%	598
<b>WYOMING:</b>							
District Court .....	G						
Juvenile cases are counted at intake or referral in the following courts:							
-----							
<b>ARKANSAS:</b>							
County Court .....	L		11,712				510
<b>CONNECTICUT:</b>							
Superior Court .....	G	3,669	16,469	16,647	3,491	101%	525
<b>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:</b>							
Superior Court .....	G	1,522	4,765	5,101	1,186	107%	755
<b>GEORGIA:</b>							
Superior Court and Juvenile Court ..	G		31,299 <sup>i</sup>	29,570 <sup>i</sup>		94% <sup>i</sup>	562 <sup>i</sup>
<b>HAWAII:</b>							
Circuit Court .....	G	4,398	8,283	8,307	4,374	100%	844
<b>MASSACHUSETTS:</b>							
Trial Court of the Commonwealth ....	G		41,632				721
<b>NEW JERSEY:</b>							
Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court .....	L	14,358	113,593	113,979	13,972	100%	1,534
<b>OHIO:</b>							
Court of Common Pleas .....	G	24,955 <sup>j</sup>	202,835 <sup>j</sup>	203,567 <sup>j</sup>	24,223 <sup>j</sup>	100% <sup>j</sup>	1,881 <sup>j</sup>
<b>OKLAHOMA:</b>							
District Court .....	G						
<b>PENNSYLVANIA:</b>							
Court of Common Pleas .....	G	6,873	47,979	48,106	6,746	100%	404
<b>RHODE ISLAND:</b>							
Family Court .....	L		6,502				682

State and court name	Jurisdiction	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as a % of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
TENNESSEE: STATE TOTAL .....							
County Court .....	L						
General Sessions Court .....	L						
Juvenile Court .....	L						

Juvenile cases are counted at different points in the process, or the point is unknown in the following courts:

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MICHIGAN:	
Probate Court .....	L

Note: Mississippi is not included in this table because it did not report any juvenile data in 1981, and did not respond to questions in the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting; therefore, juvenile jurisdiction information is unavailable. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period, and therefore, did not report any data for 1981. All other state courts with juvenile jurisdiction are listed in this table, regardless of whether data are available. All data that are at least 90% complete are entered in this table. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. The "filed per 100,000 population" STATE TOTAL figure may not equal the sum of the individual state courts due to rounding.

JExplanation of data included in the category:  
 Kansas--Data include juvenile traffic cases.  
 Kentucky--Data include paternity/bastardy cases.  
 Louisiana--Family Court and Juvenile Court--Data include domestic relations and mental health cases.  
 Maryland--Circuit Court--Pending figures include adult offenses against juveniles.  
 Minnesota--Data include adoption cases.  
 Missouri--Data include adoption and termination of parental rights cases.  
 North Carolina--Disposition data include probation violations.  
 Ohio--Data include juvenile traffic cases.  
 South Carolina--Data include juvenile traffic cases.

-- = Not applicable.

†Data are incomplete:

Arizona--Data do not include status petitions from the entire state, or child victim petitions from Maricopa County.  
 Georgia--Figures do not include data from Ware and Whitfield Counties.

TABLE 17: Civil filed and disposed for general jurisdiction, limited jurisdiction, and all trial courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization, subject matter jurisdiction, and case classification:

This table organizes the gross totals of Table 13 into those civil cases heard by the different court levels. Because of the variations in court organization, subject matter jurisdiction, and case classification, comparisons of general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts from state to state are seldom appropriate.

Lack of complete data (less than 90% complete from an individual court) is responsible for the large number of missing states in the "All trial courts" column on this table. In order for a state to be included in this table, it had to have complete filing or disposition data from all its trial courts.

Courts that do not break their caseload down into specific case types do generally separate caseload into civil, criminal, and juvenile cases. (Traffic may be reported separately or it may be lumped into criminal caseload.)

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in counting cases do have an impact on total caseloads. If states are not counting cases at the same beginning and ending point, total caseload is not comparable.

Appropriate analyses:

All percentage calculations that were less than 1% but greater than 0% have been rounded up to 1%. All percentage calculations that were less than 0% but greater than -1% have been rounded down to -1%.

Disposed as a percent of filed. This measure represents the percent of the number of filed cases that the court was able to dispose. The percent is computed by dividing the number of cases filed by the number disposed and then multiplying by one hundred. A percent over one hundred indicates that the court disposed more cases than were filed, thus reducing pending caseload. A percent significantly less than one hundred indicates that the court is not keeping up with the volume of cases being filed.

Limitations on use:

Comparisons can be made between courts that count cases in the same way. The method of counting civil cases has the greatest influence over data reported.

Although data have been broken down into general and limited jurisdiction courts, this has been done to provide a flavor for the different workloads of the different levels of trial courts. Interstate comparisons should be restricted to all trial courts' figures.

**TABLE 17:**  
**Civil filed and disposed for general jurisdiction, limited jurisdiction, and all trial courts, 1981.**  
*Disposed as a percent of filed.*

State	General jurisdiction courts			Limited jurisdiction courts			All trial courts		
	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent filed	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent filed	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent filed
Alaska .....	11,445 <sup>J</sup>	11,402 <sup>J</sup>	100% <sup>J</sup>	13,588	15,403 <sup>J</sup>	--	25,033 <sup>J</sup>	26,805 <sup>J</sup>	--
California .....	563,784	437,796	78%	1,083,282	786,037	73%	1,647,066	1,223,833	74%
Colorado .....	97,802	86,830	89%	80,222	66,276	83%	178,024	153,106	86%
Connecticut .....	179,487 <sup>J</sup>			48,787			228,274 <sup>J</sup>		
Delaware .....	6,658	6,340	95%	43,070	40,990	95%	49,728	47,330	95%
*District of Columbia .	148,118			--	--	--	148,118		
Florida .....	293,572	271,136	92%	260,935	226,885	87%	554,507	498,021	90%
Guam .....	14,549	2,729	19%	--	--	--	14,549	2,729	19%
Hawaii .....	22,640 <sup>J</sup>	16,856 <sup>J</sup>	74% <sup>J</sup>	16,907	15,992	95%	39,547 <sup>J</sup>	32,848 <sup>J</sup>	83% <sup>J</sup>
Idaho .....	52,556	60,815	116%	--	--	--	52,556	60,815	116%
Illinois .....	671,410	639,984	95%	--	--	--	671,410	639,984	95%
Kansas .....	119,511	118,143	99%	NH	NH	NH	119,511	118,143	99%
New Hampshire .....	16,805			55,084			71,889		
North Carolina .....	81,803	76,225	93%	344,483	339,309	98%	426,286	415,534	97%
North Dakota .....	12,571	12,579	100%	13,300	11,980	90%	25,871	24,559	95%
Ohio .....	264,283 <sup>J</sup>	263,879 <sup>J</sup>	100% <sup>J</sup>	391,297	392,020	100%	655,580 <sup>J</sup>	655,899 <sup>J</sup>	100% <sup>J</sup>
South Carolina .....	38,465 <sup>J</sup>	38,909 <sup>J</sup>	101% <sup>J</sup>	143,791	142,065	99%	182,256 <sup>J</sup>	180,974 <sup>J</sup>	99% <sup>J</sup>
South Dakota .....	36,321			--	--	--	36,321		
Vermont .....	21,333	20,986	98%	4,339	3,876	89%	25,672	24,862	97%
Virginia .....	80,252	76,597	95%	690,441 <sup>J</sup>	643,610 <sup>J</sup>	93% <sup>J</sup>	770,693 <sup>J</sup>	720,207 <sup>J</sup>	93% <sup>J</sup>
Washington .....	116,000 <sup>J</sup>	93,472 <sup>J</sup>	81% <sup>J</sup>	100,635	81,974	81%	216,635 <sup>J</sup>	175,446 <sup>J</sup>	81% <sup>J</sup>
West Virginia .....	49,852	49,409	99%	57,105	59,264	104%	106,957	108,673	102%
Wisconsin .....	323,920 <sup>J</sup>	333,892 <sup>J</sup>	103% <sup>J</sup>	NH	NH	NH	323,920 <sup>J</sup>	333,892 <sup>J</sup>	103% <sup>J</sup>

Note: States are included in this table only when all courts with civil jurisdiction within that state reported either complete filings and/or dispositions. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable or incomplete, or the calculations are inappropriate. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

\*The District of Columbia Superior Court counts its civil cases "at issue," rather than at the filing of the complaint or petition.

NH = This case type is not handled in this court.  
 -- = Not applicable.

<sup>J</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:  
 Alaska--General jurisdiction and all trial court data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Disposed limited jurisdiction court data include proceedings other than cases.  
 Connecticut--General jurisdiction and all trial court filed cases include postconviction remedy cases.

Hawaii--General jurisdiction and all trial court data include some criminal and traffic/other violation cases.  
 Ohio--General jurisdiction and all trial court data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 South Carolina--General jurisdiction and all trial court data include criminal appeal cases and postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Virginia--Limited jurisdiction and all trial court data include some miscellaneous criminal and misdemeanor data.  
 Washington--General jurisdiction and all trial court data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Wisconsin--Data include traffic/other violation appeals and postconviction remedy proceedings.

TABLE 18: Composition of civil case filings in general jurisdiction courts, 1981.

TABLE 19: Composition of civil case dispositions in general jurisdiction courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization and subject matter jurisdiction:

These two tables deal only with general jurisdiction courts. In states with a single-tier trial court (Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts, Missouri, South Dakota, District of Columbia, and Guam), all case types are heard in the general jurisdiction court. These courts are indicated by a "\*" before their state name. In all other states some of the trial court case types are heard in limited jurisdiction courts.

The individual court system charts for each state (found in Part II) must be consulted to determine whether the figures for an individual case type in these tables represent the complete caseload for that case type in the particular state.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in case classifications and definitions:

Courts that do not break their caseload down into specific case types do generally separate caseload into civil, criminal, and juvenile cases. (Traffic may be reported separately or it may be reported as a part of the criminal caseload.) Consequently, these two tables are easier to aggregate than later tables that show specific case types.

Those states that reported less than 90% of complete "total" data were excluded from these tables.

Appropriate analyses:

Data from these tables may be used to identify courts with similar jurisdiction and courts that handle similar volumes of cases. These data can also be used to compute the distribution of types of civil cases filed in each court. To compute the proportion of the total filings (dispositions) for each case type, divide the number of filings (dispositions) for each case type by the total filings (dispositions) for each court and multiply by 100.

Limitations on use:

Comparisons should not be made between courts in states with a single-tier trial court (marked with an "\*") and courts in states with both general and limited jurisdiction courts.

Comparisons can be made only between courts that use the same unit of count for counting civil cases. Since the data contained in these tables are taken from only the general jurisdiction courts, the court system charts for each state should be checked to determine whether or not other courts in the state also handle the specific case types before comparisons of volumes of specific case types are made.



TABLE 18:  
Composition of civil case filings in general jurisdiction courts, 1981.  
State and court. Civil case categories.

State and court title	Civil cases filed											Total civil
	Tort	Contract	Real property rights	Small claims	Domestic relations	Estate	Mental health	Appeal	Miscel- laneous civil	Unclas- sified		
Alabama--Circuit Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	47,353	NH	NH	(J)	NH	28,460J	75,813J	
Alaska--Superior Court	886	1,230	196	NH	6,868	989	242	(J)	879J	NH	11,445J	
Arizona--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	39,067	8,580		(J)	(J)	41,890J	89,537	
Arkansas--STATE TOTAL	X	(J)	X	NH	32,369	7,898	1,353	X	NH	7,545	77,881	
Circuit Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	32,369	7,898	1,353	NH	NH	28,716	28,716	
Chancery and Probate Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	32,369	7,898	1,353	NH	NH	7,545J	49,165	
California--Superior Court	80,970	(J)	1,719	NH		64,779	3,786		14,929	207,833J	563,784	
Colorado--STATE TOTAL	5,089	22,395	11,005	NH	42,327	7,719	2,712	570	5,985	NH	97,802	
District Court, Denver Superior Court, Denver Juvenile Court, and Denver Probate Court	5,089	22,395	8,684	NH	42,327	7,719	2,712	570	5,985	NH	95,481	
Water Court	(J)	(J)	2,321	NH				NH	NH	NH	2,321	
Connecticut--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	5,879	NH	26,054	248	248	767	(J)	56,092J	179,487J	
Delaware--STATE TOTAL	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	82	2,468	519	239	404	2,356J	6,658	
Court of Chancery	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	82	2,468	519	NH	NH	424J	2,892	
Superior Court	(J)	(J)	590	NH	82		519	239	404	1,932J	3,766	
*District of Columbia--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	102,533	24,490	9,301	4,260	1,106	86	449	5,893J	148,118	
Florida--Circuit Court	21,063	29,677	18,811	NH		51,839	15,827		(J)	68,291J	293,572	
Georgia--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	65,691	NH	NH	(J)	21,952J	38,237J	125,880J	
Guam--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	75	5,573	2,912	1,427	NH	NH	351	4,211	14,549	
Hawaii--Circuit Court	1,744	(J)	(J)	14,217	12,699J	1,964	(J)	22	2,712J	1,746J	22,640J	
*Idaho--District Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	205,055	13,917	4,158J	(J)	329	1,058	17,133J	52,556	
*Illinois--Circuit Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	124,533			9,886	41,467		253,485J	671,410	
Indiana--Superior Court and Circuit Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	44,593	29,284	24,192		941	NH	29,079J	211,750	
*Iowa--District Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	75,259	30,008	12,362	3,131	408	4,890	NH	158,755J	
Kansas--District Court	4,517	39,175	10,313	14,707	39,379	86	2,415		(J)	28,173J	119,511	
Kentucky--Circuit Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	2,271				(J)	2,081J	71,024J	
Maine--Superior Court	1,914	1,456	(J)	NH							8,072	
Maryland--Circuit Court	(J)	(J)	(J)		51,047	57,008	(J)	3,000	12,590J	9,838J	75,336	
*Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH			3,085		(J)	168,003J	479,421	
Minnesota--District Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	16,110	(J)	12,293	532J	(J)	(J)	20,804J	229,336J	
*Missouri--Circuit Court	(J)	(J)	439	NH	9,083	3,562			6,583	NH	28,989	
Montana--District Court	1,465	5,860	(J)	NH					(J)			
Nebraska--District Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	21,116	NH	(J)	(J)	(J)	11,812J	32,928	
New Hampshire--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	7,959	NH	NH	NH	NH	8,846J	16,805	
New Jersey--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	32,237	(J)	(J)	NH	(J)	32,126J	89,136	
New Mexico--District Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	19,249	(J)	(J)	(J)	(J)	24,669J	43,918J	
New York--Supreme Court and County Court	39,234	(J)	(J)	NH			NH		(J)	15,862J		
North Carolina--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	36,753	(J)	(J)	(J)	(J)	45,050J	81,803	
North Dakota--District Court	516	4,412	704	NH	5,890	99	NH	201	749	NH	12,571	
Ohio--Court of Common Pleas	21,906	(J)	(J)	NH	94,528	78,480	8,619	2,702		54,193J	264,283J	
Oregon--Circuit Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	6,788		3,854	(J)	(J)	30,823J		
Tax Court	NH	NH	NH	NH				258		NH	250	
Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	144,168	18,689	10,193	(J)	(J)	63,306J	236,356	

Puerto Rico--Superior Court .....	3,760	3,617	9,600	NH	32,566	4,548	581	NH	13,510	8,942J	36,321
*South Dakota--Circuit Court .....	(J)	(J)	(J)	17,999					(J)		
Tennessee--STATE TOTAL .....											
Circuit Court .....	11,169	3,279	606	NH	28,261	96	374	NH	1,676J	7,835	53,296J
Law and Equity Court .....	282	289	58	NH	2,665	173	26	NH	230	307	4,030
Chancery Court .....	595	5,262	1,902	NH	21,126	2,341	452	NH	2,557J	3,070	37,305J
Texas--District Court .....	28,698	38,902	851	NH	185,126J	(J)	(J)	NH	40,861	44,463J	347,502J
Utah--District Court .....	775J	(J)	204	NH		3,746	869	NH	15,277J		33,529J
Vermont--STATE TOTAL .....				7,978	4,350J		952		28		7,708J
Superior Court .....	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	3,303J	NH	NH	NH	317	317	21,333
District Court .....	(J)	(J)	(J)	7,978	1,047	NH	952	NH	28	28	4,195J
Virginia--Circuit Court .....	(J)	(J)	832	NH	35,738J	(J)	(J)	NH	2,945	2,945	13,490
Washington--Superior Court .....	7,919	18,748	8,255	NH	50,068	14,436	5,996	NH	8,913J	1,665	80,252
West Virginia--Circuit Court .....	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH		3,047	3,047	NH			116,000J
Wisconsin--Circuit Court .....	(J)	(J)	(J)	173,220	38,692J	42,568J	(J)	(J)	(J)	(J)	37,250J
											69,440J
											323,920J

\*Note: All available data from states that have total filings which are at least 90% complete are entered in this table. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete. States omitted from this table did not specifically report civil case types, or did not have data that are 90% complete. State courts with this jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981. Special care should be taken to insure that the point at which a civil case is counted is the same for any courts being compared. The following courts count "at issue": District of Columbia Superior Court, New Jersey Superior Court, and New York Supreme Court and County Court.

X = The data for this case type are known to be included in the total, are unavailable by category.

(j) = This indicates that case type is included in the unclassified category, unless otherwise indicated in the "j" footnotes.

NH = This case type is not handled by this court.

\*These states have a single-tier trial court. These courts have no limited jurisdiction courts under them, so included in their caseload are cases that would be heard by limited jurisdiction courts elsewhere.

<sup>1</sup>Data are incomplete:  
 Arizona--Domestic relations and total civil cases do not include adoption data from Maricopa County.  
 Delaware--Some appeals and real property rights cases in the Superior Court are included in the unclassified category.  
 District of Columbia--Some real property rights cases are included in the unclassified category.  
 Georgia--Domestic relations cases do not include adoptions. Some miscellaneous civil cases are included in the unclassified category.  
 Connecticut--Total civil data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Georgia--Miscellaneous civil and total civil cases include probation revocation hearings.  
 Hawaii--Domestic relations cases include mental health cases. Unclassified and total civil cases include some criminal and traffic cases.  
 Idaho--Estate includes mental health cases. Civil appeals may include some juvenile appeals.  
 Iowa--Data include some postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Kentucky--Data include some postconviction remedy proceedings.

Missouri--Unclassified civil and total civil cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Montana--Mental health cases include inebriation commitments.  
 Hawaii--Some domestic relations, estate and civil appeals cases are included in the unclassified category.  
 Idaho--Some torts are included in the unclassified category.  
 Illinois--Some appeals are included in the unclassified category.  
 Indiana--Data do not include some cases in the redocketed category.  
 Iowa--Domestic relations does not include adoption and paternity/bastardy cases which are included in the unclassified category.  
 Kentucky--Some support/custody cases are included in the unclassified category.  
 Maine--Paternity/bastardy cases are included in the unclassified civil category.  
 Maryland--Some civil appeal cases are included in the unclassified category.  
 Massachusetts--Total civil cases do not include miscellaneous civil cases from the Superior Court Department.  
 Missouri--Total civil cases do not include mental health, adoption and termination of parental rights cases.  
 Nebraska--Data do not include civil appeal cases.  
 North Carolina--Some estate cases are included in the unclassified civil category.  
 Texas--Some domestic relations cases are included in the unclassified category.  
 Vermont--Some domestic relations cases are included in the unclassified category.  
 Virginia--Some domestic relations cases are included in the unclassified category.  
 Wisconsin--Some domestic relations cases are included in the estate data.

JExplanation of data included in the category:  
 Alabama--Total civil data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Alaska--Total civil data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 New Mexico--Data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Ohio--Data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Tennessee--Circuit Court and Chancery Court--Data include some miscellaneous criminal cases and postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Texas--Data include child-victim juvenile petitions.  
 Utah--Tort and unclassified civil include de novo appeals from the Justice of the Peace Court. Unclassified civil and total civil include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Washington--Data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Wisconsin--Estate data include adoption and mental health cases. Unclassified civil and total civil cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.

TABLE 19:  
Composition of civil case dispositions in general jurisdiction courts, 1981.  
State and court. Civil case categories.

State and court title	Civil cases disposed											Total civil		
	Tort	Contract	Real property rights	Small claims	Domestic relations	Estate	Mental health	Appeal	Miscellaneous civil	Unclassified				
Alabama--Circuit Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	48,498	NH	NH	(J)	NH	(J)	(J)	NH	27,827J	76,325J
Alaska--Superior Court	X	X	X	X	6,387J	1,031J	(J)	X	X	X	X	NH	NH	11,402J
Arizona--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	37,264J	7,112	857	(J)	(J)	(J)	(J)	(J)	41,664J	86,897J
Arkansas--STATE TOTAL					29,569J							NH	37,514J	
Circuit Court	X	X	X	NH	NH	NH	NH	X	X	X	X	NH	30,626	30,626
Chancery and Probate Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	29,569J							NH	6,888J	
California--Superior Court	70,595	(J)	1,111	NH		61,878	4,234					NH	125,870J	437,796
Colorado--STATE TOTAL	4,298	20,043	9,892	NH	37,864	5,833	2,674	616	5,610	NH				86,850
District Court, Denver Superior Court, Denver Juvenile Court, and Denver Probate Court	4,298	20,043	7,286	NH	37,864	5,833	2,674	616	5,610	NH				84,224
Water Court	NH	NH	2,606	NH	NH	NH	NH	NH	NH	NH				2,606
Connecticut--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	5,764	NH	25,728	NH	260	1,214	(J)	NH			55,409J	
Delaware--STATE TOTAL					224	2,261	543	260J	422	2,114J			2,114J	6,340
Court of Chancery	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	NH	2,261	543	NH	NH	415J			2,676	
Superior Court	(J)	(J)	516J	NH	224	NH	543	260J	422	1,699J			3,664	
*District of Columbia--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	100,681J	25,400	7,508	2,180	15,316	122	1,059	5,547J			143,346J	
Florida--Circuit Court	19,727	28,476	16,096	NH		44,727			(J)	61,163J			271,136	
Georgia--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	58,264J	NH	NH	(J)	(J)	(J)			32,320J	106,153J
*Guam--Superior Court						46			148	402			2,729	
Hawaii--Circuit Court					9,918J	1,404J	(J)	18J	1,806J	993J			16,856J	
*Idaho--District Court	1,815J	(J)	(J)	16,371	16,576	6,210J	(J)	348J	1,157J	18,338J			60,815	
*Illinois--Circuit Court	(J)	(J)		191,579	117,042		9,796	32,470J		238,524J			639,984	
Indiana--Superior Court and Circuit Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	42,662J					(J)	(J)			60,278J	209,038J
*Iowa--District Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	74,695	28,255J		3,756	976	NH	27,243J			152,942J	
Kansas--District Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	14,707	30,207	10,976	3,131	(J)	(J)	59,122J			118,143	
Kentucky--Circuit Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	38,451J	79	2,474		(J)	27,919J			69,698J	
Maine--Superior Court	1,824	1,344	(J)	NH	2,048J	NH	NH		(J)	2,042J			7,590	
Maryland--Circuit Court				NH		(J)	(J)		12,653J	1,676J			62,262J	
*Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth	(J)	(J)	(J)	13,371	38,924J	53,332	2,765	(J)	(J)	117,261J			205,875J	
*Missouri--Circuit Court	(J)	(J)	X	NH	8,391	2,506	491J	X	(J)	180,636J			24,006	
Montana--District Court	X	X	(J)	NH	15,831	NH	(J)		(J)	10,631J			26,462J	
Nebraska--District Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH					(J)					
New Hampshire--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	9,162	NH	NH	NH	NH	8,405J			17,567	
New Jersey--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	31,146	(J)	(J)	(J)	(J)	33,108J			87,498	
New Mexico--District Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	19,427	(J)	(J)	(J)	(J)	25,424J			44,851J	
New York--Supreme Court and County Court	40,979	(J)	(J)	NH	67,544	NH	NH	(J)	(J)	14,922J			76,225	
North Carolina--Superior Court	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH		33,830J	(J)	(J)	(J)	42,395J				
North Dakota--District Court	657	4,274	770	NH	5,843	85	NH	191	759	NH			12,579	
Ohio--Court of Common Pleas	22,327	(J)	(J)	NH	96,406	75,040	8,435	2,935	(J)	54,871J			263,879J	
Oregon--Circuit Court		(J)	(J)	NH	6,201	NH	NH	(J)	(J)	28,506J			130	
Tax Court	NH	NH	NH	NH	NH	NH	NH	130						
Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas	(J)	(J)	(J)	NH	122,337	18,491	10,211	(J)	(J)	64,471			215,510	
Puerto Rico--Superior Court							NH		12,674	NH				

South Dakota--Circuit Court .....	(J)	(J)	16,547							(J)	8,058J	
Texas--District Court and Criminal District Court .....												322,269J 19,353J
Utah--District Court .....	X	798	26,406	32,179	X					33,389	41,130J	20,986
*Vermont--STATE TOTAL .....												7,599J
Superior Court .....	(J)	(J)	(J)	(J)	(J)					335	335	4,172J
District Court .....	(J)	(J)	(J)	(J)	(J)					NH	NH	7,899
Virginia--Circuit Court .....	(J)	(J)	(J)	(J)	(J)					2,164	(J)	13,087 76,597
Washington--Superior Court .....	6,723	17,293	5,918							1,081	5,415J	93,472J
West Virginia--Circuit Court .....	(J)	(J)	(J)							(J)	(J)	49,409
Wisconsin--Circuit Court .....	(J)	(J)	(J)							(J)	(J)	333,892J

Note: All available data from states that have total dispositions which are at least 90% complete are entered in this table. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete. States omitted from this table did not specifically report civil case types, or did not report data that are 90% complete. State courts with this jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this Report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this reporting period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

Special care should be taken to insure that the point at which a civil case is counted is the same for any courts being compared. The following courts count "at issue": District of Columbia Superior Court, New Jersey Superior Court, and New York Supreme Court and County Court.

X = The data for this case type are known to be included in the total.  
(J) = This indicates that the case type is included in the unclassified category, unless otherwise indicated in the "j" footnotes.

NH = This case type is not handled by this court.  
\*These states have a single-tier trial court. These courts hear cases that would be heard by limited jurisdiction courts elsewhere.

<sup>1</sup>Data are incomplete:  
Alaska--Domestic relations do not include adoptions, which are part of estate cases.  
Arizona--Domestic relations and total civil cases do not include adoptions from Maricopa County.  
Arkansas--Chancery and Probate Court--Domestic relations cases do not include adoption cases.  
Delaware--Some real property rights and civil appeal cases are reported with unclassified civil cases.  
District of Columbia--Some real property rights cases are included in the unclassified category. Total civil do not include mental retardation cases.  
Georgia--Domestic relations do not include adoptions, which are reported with unclassified civil cases.  
Hawaii--Some appeals are included in the miscellaneous civil cases. Some domestic relations and estate cases are included in unclassified civil cases.  
Idaho--Some torts are included in the unclassified category.  
Illinois--Some civil appeals are included in the unclassified category.  
Indiana--Some case types do not include "redocketed cases."  
Iowa--Some domestic relations are included in the unclassified category. Total civil cases do not include some domestic relations and estate cases.  
Kentucky--Some domestic relations cases are included in the unclassified category.  
Maine--Some domestic relations cases are included in the unclassified category.

Maryland--Total civil cases do not include most civil appeals.  
Massachusetts--Domestic relations cases do not include desertions, living apart and custody of minor cases.  
Missouri--Data do not include mental health, adoption and termination of parental rights cases.  
Nebraska--Total civil cases do not include civil appeals which are counted with criminal appeals.  
North Carolina--Some estate data are included in the unclassified civil category.  
Texas--Some domestic relations cases are included in the unclassified civil category.  
Vermont--Some domestic relations are included in unclassified civil cases.  
Virginia--Some domestic relations are included in unclassified civil cases.  
Washington--Some domestic relations are included in unclassified civil cases.  
Wisconsin--Some domestic relations are included with estate cases.

JExplanation of data included in the category:

Alabama--Data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
Alaska--Estate cases include adoption and mental health cases.  
California--Unclassified civil cases also include some domestic relations and appeal cases.  
Connecticut--Unclassified civil cases include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
Georgia--Data include probation revocation hearings.  
Hawaii--Domestic relations include mental health cases.  
Unclassified civil and total civil include some criminal and traffic/other violation cases.  
Idaho--Estate data include mental health cases. Civil appeals may include some juvenile appeals. Miscellaneous civil include some miscellaneous tort cases.  
Iowa--Unclassified and total civil data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
Kentucky--Unclassified and total civil data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
Maryland--Miscellaneous civil cases include estate and mental health cases.  
Missouri--Data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
Montana--Mental health cases include inebriation commitments.  
New Mexico--Data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
Ohio--Data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
Oregon--Data include criminal appeals.  
Texas--Domestic relations and total civil cases include some child-victim juvenile cases.  
Utah--Total civil include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
Washington--Miscellaneous civil and total civil data include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
Wisconsin--Estate cases include adoption and mental health cases. Unclassified and total civil cases include some traffic appeals and postconviction remedy proceedings.

TABLE 20: Tort, contract, real property rights and small claims filings and dispositions for trial courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization and subject matter jurisdiction:

Caseload in this table is from both general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts. The same case types may be handled in different courts from state to state. Only state totals can be compared. To facilitate comparisons, the states in these tables have been grouped into three categories: those states where a court has exclusive jurisdiction over a case type and where it submitted complete data; those states where more than one court handles a case type and each court submitted complete data; and those states that reported incomplete data from any one of these courts with that case type jurisdiction.

The court system charts in Part II should be consulted for a brief summary of the jurisdiction of each court.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in case classification and definitions:

The COSCA CSIM Committee has chosen to classify cases according to subject-matter rather than the remedy sought. This makes categories such as "law" and "equity" difficult to reclassify unless the particular court can report specifically the kinds of cases included.

For this reason, this new table combines torts, contracts, real property rights, and small claims cases into one table. Small claims are simply torts, contracts and real property rights cases that are handled by summary procedures. States with small claims procedures will probably have a smaller tort, contract and real property count than states without such procedures. In addition, some states report one figure for torts, contracts and real property rights cases. These cases are reported in the unclassified category. In most instances, the state and court totals are the comparable figures.

Only states reporting data that could be displayed in the specific case type are included in these tables, and then only if the data are 90% complete. Many courts do not break data down beyond the broad civil, criminal, traffic, and juvenile categories.

Variations in counting cases:

Caseload cannot be compared among courts that do not count cases at the same beginning and end point. Those states that do not count cases at the filing of the petition or complaint are indicated by an "\*" at the end of the table.

Appropriate analyses:

All percentage calculations that were less than 1% but greater than 0% have been rounded up to 1%. All percentage calculations that were less than 0% but greater than -1% have been rounded down to -1%.

Disposed cases as percent of filed. This measure represents the percent of the number of filed cases of which the court was able to dispose. The percent is computed by dividing the number of cases filed by the number disposed and then multiplying by one hundred. A percent over one hundred indicates that the court disposed of more cases than were filed, thus reducing pending caseload. A percent significantly less than one hundred indicates that the court is not keeping up with the volume of cases being filed.

Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population. The unit of state population used on all court caseload charts is 100,000. This measure compensates for variations in state population and gives a more realistic basis for comparison of caseloads among states of various sizes. If the number of filings was not available (indicated by an "i" footnote in the profiles in Part II) but the number of dispositions was available, the number of cases disposed per unit of population was entered in this column in place of the number of cases filed per population unit, and the use of this alternative quantity was indicated by enclosing it in parentheses. If all other factors (court jurisdiction, case definition, etc.) are similar, the filed-per-unit-of-population statistic will permit direct comparisons among states of the number of filed cases. For civil cases in trial courts, this measure will indicate, among other things, the propensity to litigate among the citizens in a given state.

Limitations on use:

In this table, only the STATE TOTALS can be compared in those states where more than one court has jurisdiction over the case type.

Comparisons can be made between the data reported for a state where an individual court has exclusive jurisdiction over the type of case and the STATE TOTALS for states where more than one court has jurisdiction. Comparisons can not be made for states reporting incomplete data. Comparisons should be made only between those cases that use the same unit of count for counting civil cases.

**TABLE 20:**

**Tort, contract, real property rights and small claims filings and dispositions for trial courts, 1981.**  
 Courts reporting tort, contract, real property rights, small claims and unclassified civil (when unclassified, civil includes tort, contract and real property rights cases only) caseload. State and court totals for disposed as a percent of filed. State filings (dispositions) per 100,000 population.

State and court title	State/court totals														
	Tort		Contract		Real Property Rights		Small Claims		Unclassified		Filed	Disposed	Filed (dis-posed) per 100,000 population		
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed					
<b>COMPLETE STATE DATA</b>															
<b>Exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>															
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA--Superior Court*	X		X		X	102,533 <sup>1</sup>	100,681 <sup>1</sup>	24,490	25,400	5,893	5,547	132,916	131,628	99%	21,064
GUAM--Superior Court	X		X		X	75	15	5,573	1,438	4,211	402	9,859	1,855	19%	--
KANSAS--District Court	4,517		39,175		10,313			14,707	14,707	--	--	68,712			2,883
<b>Not exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>															
ALASKA: STATE TOTAL	1,438		4,123		196	770	10,143	11,214	6,404	2,138	4,189J	15,900	14,172	100%	3,859
Superior Court	886		1,230		196		NH	NH	NH			2,312	5,701	101%	561
District Court	552		2,893		NH		10,143	11,214	6,404	2,138	4,189J	13,588	8,465	95%	3,298
NEW HAMPSHIRE: STATE TOTAL	X		X		X	X	X	28,246	16,944	8,405	8,405	47,503	8,405	95%	5,073
Superior Court	X		X		X	X	X	27,408	8,846	8,098	8,098	37,790	8,405	95%	945
District Court	X		X		2,284			838		--	--	867			4,037
Municipal Court	NH		NH		29										93
NORTH DAKOTA: STATE TOTAL	516		4,412		704	770	6,446	6,404	2,067	2,067	--	14,216	14,172	100%	2,160
District Court												5,632	5,701	101%	856
County Court with Increased Jurisdiction	X		X		X	X	5,269	5,248	2,105	2,046	2,046	7,374	7,294	99%	1,121
County Justice Court	X		X		X	X	1,177	1,156	33	21	21	1,210	1,177	97%	184
PUERTO RICO: STATE TOTAL	5,573		48,316		9,988	10,436	NH	NH	NH	--	--	63,877	65,945	103%	1,999
Superior Court	3,760		3,617		9,600	9,930	NH	NH	NH	--	--	16,977	17,865	105%	531
District Court	1,813		44,699		388	506	NH	NH	NH	--	--	46,900	48,080	103%	1,467
WASHINGTON: STATE TOTAL	7,919		18,748		8,255	5,918	26,706	21,065	73,929	60,909	60,909	135,557	111,908	83%	3,215
Superior Court	X		X		8,255	5,918	NH	NH	NH	--	--	34,922	29,934	86%	828
District Court					NH		26,706	21,065	73,929	60,909	60,909	100,635	81,974	81%	2,386
<b>INCOMPLETE STATE DATA</b>															
ALABAMA--Circuit Court			X		X	X	NH	NH	NH	55,818	54,994	147,368	145,966	99%	3,762
District Court	X		X		X	X	91,550	90,972	90,972	90,972	90,972	147,368	145,966	99%	3,762
ARIZONA--Superior Court			X		X	X	NH	NH	NH	56,852 <sup>1</sup>	49,418 <sup>1</sup>	56,852 <sup>1</sup>	49,418 <sup>1</sup>	87%	2,035 <sup>1</sup>
Justice of the Peace Court	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	56,852 <sup>1</sup>	49,418 <sup>1</sup>	56,852 <sup>1</sup>	49,418 <sup>1</sup>	87%	2,035 <sup>1</sup>
ARKANSAS--Circuit Court			X		X	X	NH	NH	NH	7,545	6,888	7,545	6,888	91%	329
Chancery and Probate Court			X		X	X	NH	NH	NH	7,545	6,888	7,545	6,888	91%	329
Municipal Court	NH		NH		NH	NH	NH	NH	NH	--	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	NH		NH		NH	NH	NH	NH	NH	--	--	--	--	--	--
Court of Common Pleas	NH		300		NH	NH	NH	NH	NH	--	--	300			13
Police Court and City Court	NH				NH	NH	NH	NH	NH	--	--				
CALIFORNIA: STATE TOTAL	80,970		70,595		1,719	1,111	561,908	412,258	35,477	26,160	526,431	386,098			
Superior Court															
Justice Court															
Municipal Court															

COLORADO: STATE TOTAL .....			13,683	10,568																
District Court and Denver .....																				
Superior Court .....			NH	NH	7,286	8,684	20,043	8,684	590 <sup>i</sup>	X	X	516 <sup>i</sup>								
Water Court .....			NH	NH	2,606	2,321														
County Court .....			NH	NH	2,606															
CONNECTICUT--Superior Court .....					5,764	5,879														
DELAWARE: STATE TOTAL .....																				
Superior Court .....			NH	NH						X	X	516 <sup>i</sup>								
Court of Chancery .....			NH	NH																
Court of Common Pleas .....			NH	NH					X	X	X									
Alderman's Court .....			NH	NH						X	X									
Justice of the Peace Court .....			NH	NH						X	X									
FLORIDA: STATE TOTAL .....																				
Circuit Court .....			NH	NH	172,208	158,038														
County Court .....			NH	NH	172,208	158,038														
HAWAII: STATE TOTAL .....																				
Circuit Court .....																				
District Court .....					961	1,099	11,001	961												
IDAHO--District Court .....																				
ILLINOIS--Circuit Court .....																				
INDIANA: STATE TOTAL .....																				
Superior Court and Circuit Court ..					205,055	191,579														
County Court .....					172,013 <sup>i</sup>	164,234 <sup>i</sup>														
Municipal Court of Marion County ..					44,593 <sup>i</sup>	42,662 <sup>i</sup>														
Small Claims Court of Marion County ..					77,521 <sup>i</sup>	75,666 <sup>i</sup>														
City Court .....			NH	NH	49,899	45,906														
City Court and Town Court .....			NH	NH	49,899	45,906														
IOWA--District Court .....																				
KENTUCKY: STATE TOTAL .....																				
Circuit Court .....					75,259	74,695														
District Court .....					34,550	30,449														
LOUISIANA: STATE TOTAL .....																				
District Court .....																				
City Court and Parish Court .....																				
Justice of the Peace Court .....																				
MAINE: STATE TOTAL .....																				
Superior Court .....																				
District Court .....					1,824	1,456	1,344			X	X									
MARYLAND: STATE TOTAL .....																				
Circuit Court .....																				
District Court .....																				
MINNESOTA: STATE TOTAL .....																				
District Court .....																				
County Court, County Municipal ..																				
Court and Conciliation Court ...																				
MISSOURI--Circuit Court .....																				
NEBRASKA: STATE TOTAL .....																				
District Court .....																				
County Court .....																				
Municipal Court .....																				
NEW JERSEY: STATE TOTAL .....																				
Superior Court .....																				
County District Court .....					17,215	18,242	182,304	187,488	119,410			119,045								
NEW MEXICO--District Court .....																				
Magistrate Court .....																				
Bernalillo County Metropolitan ..																				
Court .....																				

(continued on next page)

**TABLE 20:**  
**Tort, contract, real property rights and small claims filings and dispositions for trial courts, 1981. (continued)**

State and court title	State/court totals												
	Tort		Contract		Real Property Rights		Small Claims		Unclassified		Filed		Filed (dis-posed) per 100,000 population
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	
NEW YORK--Supreme Court and County Court.....	39,234	40,979											
Civil Court of the City of New York.....	17,302	17,580	13,001	13,023	120,856	122,422	59,728	62,416	--	--	210,887	215,441	1,198 (557)
District Court and City Court .....			X	X	X	X	43,822	42,378	55,643	98,021			
Court of Claims .....	X	X	X	X	X	X	NH	NH	1,330	1,103	1,330	1,103	83%
Town and Village Justice Court .....													
NORTH CAROLINA: STATE TOTAL .....							226,604	224,173					
Superior Court .....							NH	NH					
District Court .....							226,604	224,173					
OHIO: STATE TOTAL .....	41,603	42,419					94,324	95,873					
Court of Common Pleas .....	21,906	22,327					NH	NH					
Municipal Court .....	18,992	19,451	187,647 <sup>1</sup>	188,026 <sup>1</sup>	53,429	52,122	80,254	82,227	--	--	340,322 <sup>1</sup>	341,826 <sup>1</sup>	3,157 <sup>1</sup>
County Court .....	705	641	7,749 <sup>1</sup>	7,149 <sup>1</sup>	2,848	2,799	14,070	13,646	--	--	25,372 <sup>1</sup>	24,235 <sup>1</sup>	235 <sup>1</sup>
OREGON--Circuit Court .....	X	X	X	X	X	X	NH	NH					
District Court .....							54,457	54,931	33,862	34,547	88,319	89,478	101%
Justice Court .....													
PENNSYLVANIA: STATE TOTAL .....							29,328	31,191					
Court of Common Pleas .....							NH	NH					
District Justice Court .....	X	X	X	X	X	X	NH	NH	188,199		188,199		1,585
Philadelphia Municipal Court .....	NH	NH	NH	NH	18,523	18,348	31,191		--	--	47,851	49,539	403
Pittsburgh City Magistrate Court .....	NH	NH	2,234						--	--	2,234		19
RHODE ISLAND: STATE TOTAL .....							8,383	6,248					
Superior Court .....							NH	NH					
District Court .....	X	X	X	X	X	X	8,383	6,248	23,689	20,016	32,072	26,264	82%
Justice Court .....													
SOUTH DAKOTA--Circuit Court .....							17,999	16,547					
TENNESSEE--Circuit Court .....	11,169		3,279		606		NH	NH	--	--	15,054		326
Chancery Court .....	595		5,262		1,902		NH	NH	--	--	7,759		168
Law and Equity Court .....	282		289		58		NH	NH	--	--	629		14
General Sessions Court .....													
TEXAS--District Court .....	28,698	26,406	38,902	32,179	851	798	NH	NH	--	--	68,451	59,383	464
County Court at Law and Constitutional County Court .....													
Justice of the Peace Court .....													
UTAH: STATE TOTAL .....							30,706 <sup>1</sup>						
District Court .....	X	X	X	X	204	X	NH	NH					
Circuit Court .....	X	X	X	X	X	X	27,888		29,858		57,746		3,804
Justice of the Peace Court .....	X	X	X	X	NH	NH	2,818 <sup>1</sup>		371 <sup>1</sup>		3,189 <sup>1</sup>		210 <sup>1</sup>
VERMONT: STATE TOTAL .....							7,978	8,340					
Superior Court .....	X	X	X	X	NH	NH	NH	NH	3,513	3,427	11,491	11,767	102%
District Court .....													
VIRGINIA: STATE TOTAL .....					832	916	NH	NH					
Circuit Court .....							NH	NH					
District Court .....													
WEST VIRGINIA--Circuit Court .....	X	X	X	X	NH	NH	NH	NH	57,105	59,264	57,105	59,264	104%
Magistrate Court .....													
WISCONSIN--Circuit Court .....							173,220	177,256					



Note: Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. States omitted from this table did not specifically report tort, contract, real property rights or small claims cases in a way in which they could be separated from other case types. State courts with those jurisdictions can be identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this Report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

NH = This case type is not handled in this court.  
X = Data for this case type are known to be included in the unclassified category, but are unavailable by category.  
-- = Not applicable.  
\* = Civil cases are counted at note of issue in these courts.

i Data are incomplete:  
Arizona--Justices of the Peace--The Glendale and South Phoenix Precincts have incomplete data.  
Delaware--Superior Court--Some real property rights cases are included in the unclassified category.  
District of Columbia--Some real property rights cases are included in the unclassified category.  
Idaho--Some torts are included in the unclassified civil category.  
Indiana--Superior Court and County Court--Data do not include some unclassified cases.  
Ohio--Data do not include some contract cases included with miscellaneous civil cases.  
Utah--Data are from 135 of 149 Justices of the Peace.  
j Explanation of data included in the category: unclassified data include torts, contracts and Alaska--District Court--Unclassified data include torts, contracts and some proceedings that are not counted as cases.

TABLE 21: Domestic relations caseload for trial courts, 1981.

TABLE 22: Estate caseload for trial courts, 1981.

TABLE 23: Mental health caseload for trial courts, 1981.

TABLE 24: Civil appeals caseload for trial courts, 1981.

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Variations in court organization and subject matter jurisdiction:

Caseload in these tables are from both general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts. The same case types may be handled in different courts from state to state. Only state totals can be compared. To facilitate comparisons, the states in these tables have been grouped into three categories: those states where a court has exclusive jurisdiction over a case type and where it submitted complete data; those states where more than one court handles a case type and each court submitted complete data; and those states that reported incomplete data from any one of these courts with that case type jurisdiction.

The court system charts in Part II should be consulted for a brief summary of the jurisdiction of each court.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in case classification and definitions:

The COSCA CSIM Committee has chosen to classify cases according to subject-matter rather than the remedy sought. This makes categories such as "law" and "equity" difficult to reclassify unless the particular court can report specifically the kinds of cases included.

Even with use of the Model Statistical Dictionary case definitions, the classifications vary from state to state. Domestic relations, for example, may include all family matters in some states while other states report only divorce actions as domestic relations cases.

Some states count support and custody matters in their juvenile caseload, whereas the classification used here places these matters in domestic relations caseload. In other states support/custody issues are counted as separate cases, while other states treat support/custody issues as part of marriage dissolution cases.

Only states reporting data that could be displayed in the specific case type are included in these tables, and then only if the data are 90% complete. Many courts do not break data down beyond the broad civil, criminal, traffic, and juvenile categories.

Variations in counting cases:

Caseload cannot be compared among courts that do not count cases at the same beginning and end point. Those states that do not count cases at the filing of the petition or complaint are indicated by an "\*" at the end of each table.

Appropriate analyses:

All percentage calculations that were less than 1% but greater than 0% have been rounded up to 1%. All percentage calculations that were less than 0% but greater than -1% have been rounded down to -1%.

Disposed cases as percent of filed. This measure represents the percent of the number of filed cases of which the court was able to dispose. The percent is computed by dividing the number of cases filed by the number disposed and then multiplying by one hundred. A percent over one hundred indicates that the court disposed of more cases than were filed, thus reducing pending caseload. A percent significantly less than one hundred indicates that the court is not keeping up with the volume of cases being filed.

Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population. The unit of state population used on all court caseload charts is 100,000. This measure compensates for variations in state population and gives a more realistic basis for comparison of caseloads among states of various sizes. If the number of filings was not available or was not complete (indicated by an "i" footnote in the profiles in Part II) but the number of dispositions was available, the number of cases disposed per unit of population was entered in this column in place of the number of cases filed per population unit, and the use of this alternative quantity was indicated by enclosing it in parentheses. If all other factors (court jurisdiction, case definition, etc.) are similar, the filed-per-unit-of-population statistic will permit direct comparisons among states of the number of filed cases. For civil cases in trial courts, this measure will indicate, among other things, the propensity to litigate among the citizens in a given state.

Limitations on use:

In these case type tables, only the STATE TOTALS can be compared in those states where more than one court has jurisdiction over the case type.

Comparisons can be made between the data reported for a state where an individual court has exclusive jurisdiction over the type of case and the STATE TOTALS for states where more than one court has jurisdiction. Comparisons can not be made for states reporting incomplete data. Comparisons should be made only between those cases that use the same unit of count for counting civil cases.

TABLE 21:

## Domestic relations caseload for trial courts, 1981.

Courts reporting domestic relations caseload. Disposed as a percent of filed. Filed per 100,000 population.

State and court title	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as percent of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
<b>COMPLETE STATE TOTALS</b>						
<b>Exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>						
Alabama--Circuit Court .....		47,353	48,498		102%	1,209
Alaska--Superior Court .....		6,868	6,387 <sup>i</sup>			1,667
*District of Columbia--Superior Court .....	8,750	9,301	7,508	10,543	81%	1,474
Guam--Superior Court .....	1,715	2,912	680	2,232	23%	
Idaho--District Court .....	8,774	13,917	16,576	6,115	119%	1,451
Illinois--Circuit Court .....	59,894	124,533	117,042	63,294	94%	1,086
Kansas--District Court .....	8,954 <sup>i</sup>	30,008	30,207	8,758 <sup>i</sup>	101%	1,259
Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth.		51,047	38,924 <sup>i</sup>			884
Montana--District Court .....	4,979	9,083	8,391	5,671	92%	1,145
New Mexico--District Court .....	6,613	19,249	19,427	6,435	101%	1,449
North Dakota--District Court .....		5,890	5,843		99%	895
Ohio--Court of Common Pleas .....		94,528	96,406		102%	877
Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas .....	42,702	144,168	122,337	64,533	85%	1,214
Washington--Superior Court .....		50,068	40,013 <sup>i</sup>			1,187
<b>Not exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>						
Arkansas--STATE TOTAL .....		34,564				1,505
Chancery and Probate Court.....	17,131 <sup>i</sup>	32,369	29,569 <sup>i</sup>	18,265 <sup>i</sup>		1,410
County Court .....		2,195				96
Colorado--STATE COURT .....		42,327	37,864		89%	1,428
District Court and Denver Juvenile Court ..		42,327	37,864		89%	1,428
Connecticut--STATE TOTAL .....		28,994				925
Superior Court .....	13,012	26,054	25,728	13,338	99%	831
Probate Court .....		2,940				94
Delaware--STATE TOTAL .....	4,392	18,250	18,279	4,363	100%	3,052
Superior Court .....	208	82	224	66	273%	14
Family Court .....	4,184	18,168	18,055	4,297	99%	3,038
Nebraska--STATE TOTAL .....		22,381	17,078		76%	1,419
District Court .....		21,116	15,831		75%	1,339
County Court .....		1,265	1,247		99%	80
New Hampshire--STATE TOTAL .....		10,909				1,165
Superior Court .....		7,959	9,162		115%	850
Probate Court .....		2,000				214
District Court .....		950				101
New Jersey--STATE TOTAL .....	26,810	122,584	122,318	27,076	100%	1,656
*Superior Court (Chancery Division) .....	19,913	32,237	31,146	21,004	97%	435
Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court .....	6,897	90,347	91,172	6,072	101%	1,220
New York--STATE TOTAL .....			357,542			(2,031)
*Supreme Court .....			67,544			(384)
Family Court .....	46,020	296,384	287,161	41,764	97%	1,684
Surrogate's Court .....			2,837			(16)
Puerto Rico--STATE TOTAL .....	13,848	35,751	35,643	13,956	100%	1,119
Superior Court .....	13,481	32,566	32,445	13,602	100%	1,019
District Court .....	367	3,185	3,198	354	100%	100

(continued on next page)

**TABLE 21:**  
**Domestic relations caseload for trial courts, 1981. (continued)**

State and court title	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as percent of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
<b>INCOMPLETE STATE DATA</b>						
Arizona--Superior Court .....	24,382 <sup>i</sup>	39,067 <sup>i</sup>	37,264 <sup>i</sup>	26,185 <sup>i</sup>	95% <sup>i</sup>	1,398 <sup>i</sup>
Georgia--Superior Court .....		65,691 <sup>i</sup>	58,264 <sup>i</sup>		89% <sup>i</sup>	1,179 <sup>i</sup>
Hawaii--Circuit Court .....	10,135 <sup>ij</sup>	12,699 <sup>ij</sup>	9,918 <sup>ij</sup>	12,916 <sup>ij</sup>	78% <sup>ij</sup>	1,294 <sup>ij</sup>
Iowa--District Court .....		29,284 <sup>i</sup>	28,255 <sup>i</sup>			1,010 <sup>i</sup>
Kentucky--Circuit Court .....		39,379 <sup>i</sup>	38,451 <sup>i</sup>		98% <sup>i</sup>	1,075 <sup>i</sup>
District Court .....						
Maine--Superior Court .....	2,281 <sup>i</sup>	2,277 <sup>i</sup>	2,048 <sup>i</sup>	2,510 <sup>i</sup>	90% <sup>i</sup>	201 <sup>i</sup>
District Court .....		7,742	8,454		109%	683
Probate Court .....						
Minnesota--District Court and County Court ..		38,579 <sup>i</sup>	30,455 <sup>i</sup>	6,713 <sup>i</sup>	79% <sup>i</sup>	942 <sup>i</sup>
North Carolina--Superior Court .....						
District Court .....		65,779	62,127		94%	1,105
Oregon--Circuit Court .....						
County Court .....		2				1
Rhode Island--Family Court .....		6,021 <sup>i</sup>				632 <sup>i</sup>
South Carolina--Family Court .....	12,681 <sup>j</sup>	44,607 <sup>j</sup>	43,462 <sup>j</sup>	13,826 <sup>j</sup>	97% <sup>j</sup>	1,408 <sup>j</sup>
Magistrate Court .....						
Tennessee--Circuit Court .....		28,261				613
Law and Equity Court .....		2,665				58
Chancery Court .....		21,126				458
General Sessions Court .....						
County Court .....						
Juvenile Court .....						
Texas--District Court .....	122,717 <sup>ij</sup>	185,126 <sup>ij</sup>	180,588 <sup>ij</sup>	127,255 <sup>ij</sup>	98% <sup>ij</sup>	1,254 <sup>ij</sup>
County Court at Law and Constitutional County Court .....						
Vermont--Superior Court .....	2,654 <sup>i</sup>	3,303 <sup>i</sup>	3,365 <sup>i</sup>	2,592 <sup>i</sup>	102% <sup>i</sup>	640 <sup>i</sup>
District Court .....	2,023	1,047	780	2,290	74%	203
Probate Court .....	150	921	925	146	100%	179
Virginia--Circuit Court .....		35,738 <sup>i</sup>	34,028 <sup>i</sup>		95% <sup>i</sup>	658 <sup>i</sup>
District Court .....		69,705 <sup>j</sup>	57,488 <sup>j</sup>		82% <sup>j</sup>	1,284 <sup>j</sup>
Wisconsin--Circuit Court .....		38,692 <sup>i</sup>	38,326 <sup>i</sup>		99% <sup>i</sup>	816 <sup>i</sup>

Note: States omitted from this table did not specifically report domestic relations cases. State courts with this jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this Report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981. All available data that are at least 90% complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate.

\* = These courts count civil cases "at issue" as opposed to the filing of the petition or complaint.

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

- Alaska--Disposed cases do not include adoption cases.
- Arizona--Data do not include adoption cases from Maricopa County.
- Arkansas--Chancery and Probate Court--Disposed and pending cases do not include adoption cases.
- Georgia--Data do not include adoption cases.
- Hawaii--Some domestic relations cases are included in the unclassified civil category.
- Iowa--Data do not include adoption and paternity/bastardy cases. In addition, disposed cases do not include family in need of assistance cases.

- Kansas--Pending data do not include adoption data.
  - Kentucky--Data do not include all support/custody cases.
  - Maine--Superior Court--Data do not include paternity/bastardy cases.
  - Massachusetts--Disposed cases do not include desertions and living apart, and custody of minors data.
  - Minnesota--Data do not include adoption cases.
  - Rhode Island--Data do not include paternity/bastardy cases.
  - Texas--District Court--Data do not include annulments and paternity/bastardy cases.
  - Vermont--Superior Court--Data do not include paternity/bastardy cases.
  - Virginia--Circuit Court--Data do not include adoption and paternity/bastardy cases.
  - Washington--Disposed cases do not include adoptions.
  - Wisconsin--Data do not include adoption cases.
- <sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:
- Hawaii--Data include mental health cases.
  - South Carolina--Data include some miscellaneous civil cases (e.g., change of name cases).
  - Texas--District Court--Data include some miscellaneous civil and child-victim petitions.
  - Virginia--District Court--Data include some miscellaneous criminal and misdemeanor cases.

**TABLE 22:**  
**Estate caseload for trial courts, 1981.**  
*Courts reporting estate caseload. Disposed as a percent of filed. Filed per 100,000 population.*

State and court title	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as percent of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
<b>COMPLETE STATE DATA</b>						
<b>Exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>						
Alaska--Superior Court .....		989	1,031 <sup>j</sup>			240
Arizona--Superior Court .....	26,820	8,580	7,112	28,288	83%	307
Arkansas--Chancery and Probate Court .....		7,898				344
California--Superior Court .....		64,779	61,878		96%	268
Connecticut--Probate Court .....		43,428				1,386
Delaware--Court of Chancery .....	6,820	2,468	2,261	7,027	92%	413
*District of Columbia--Superior Court .....	4,651	4,260	2,180	6,731	51%	675
Florida--Circuit Court .....		51,839	44,727		86%	509
Guam--Superior Court .....	1,203	1,427	46	1,381	3%	
Idaho--District Court .....	4,659 <sup>j</sup>	4,158 <sup>j</sup>	6,210 <sup>j</sup>	2,607 <sup>j</sup>	149% <sup>j</sup>	434 <sup>j</sup>
Iowa--District Court .....		24,192				835
Kansas--District Court .....		12,362	10,976		89%	519
Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth.		57,008	53,332		94%	988
Missouri--Circuit Court .....	31,689	12,293	11,868	32,176	97%	249
Montana--District Court .....	6,495	3,562	2,506	7,154	70%	449
Nebraska--County Court .....		10,445	10,540		101%	662
New Hampshire--Probate Court .....		12,561				1,342
Ohio--Court of Common Pleas .....	83,928 <sup>i</sup>	78,480	75,040	87,648 <sup>i</sup>	96%	728
Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas .....	1,395	18,689	18,491	1,593	99%	157
South Dakota--Circuit Court .....		4,548				663
Utah--District Court .....		3,746	2,906		78%	247
Vermont--Probate Court .....	11,532 <sup>i</sup>	2,893	2,435	11,990 <sup>i</sup>	84%	561
Washington--Superior Court .....		14,436				342
Wisconsin--Circuit Court .....		42,568 <sup>j</sup>	46,352 <sup>j</sup>		109% <sup>j</sup>	898 <sup>j</sup>
<b>Not exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>						
Colorado--STATE TOTAL .....		7,719	5,833		76%	260
District Court and Denver Probate Court ...		7,719	5,833		76%	260
Kentucky--STATE TOTAL .....		26,899	21,679		81%	734
District Court .....		26,813	21,600		81%	732
Circuit Court .....		86	79		92%	2
New York--STATE TOTAL .....			77,290			(439)
Family Court .....	250	474	674	151	142%	3
Surrogates' Court .....			76,616			(435)
North Dakota--STATE TOTAL .....		3,737	2,516		67%	568
District Court .....		99	85		86%	15
County Court with Increased Jurisdiction ..		2,044	1,217		60%	311
County Probate Court .....	3,993	1,594	1,214	4,373	76%	242
Oregon--STATE TOTAL .....		7,025	6,415		91%	265
Circuit Court .....		6,788	6,201		91%	256
District Court .....		73	64		88%	3
County Court .....		164	150		91%	6
Minnesota--STATE TOTAL .....	19,659	10,007	10,817	15,302	108%	244
County Court, District Court and Probate Court .....	19,659	10,007	10,817	15,302	108%	244

(continued on next page)

TABLE 22:  
Estate caseload for trial courts, 1981. (continued)

State and court title	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as percent of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
<b>INCOMPLETE STATE DATA</b>						
Hawaii--Circuit Court .....	7,693 <sup>i</sup>	1,964 <sup>i</sup>	1,404 <sup>i</sup>	8,253 <sup>i</sup>	71% <sup>i</sup>	200 <sup>i</sup>
Indiana--Superior Court and Circuit Court ..	70,611 <sup>ij</sup>	25,177 <sup>ij</sup>	23,561 <sup>ij</sup>	72,243 <sup>ij</sup>	94% <sup>ij</sup>	460 <sup>ij</sup>
Probate Court .....	3,864 <sup>j</sup>	1,147 <sup>j</sup>	866 <sup>j</sup>	4,145 <sup>j</sup>	76% <sup>j</sup>	21 <sup>j</sup>
North Carolina--Superior Court .....	50,235 <sup>i</sup>	36,753 <sup>i</sup>	33,830 <sup>i</sup>	53,158 <sup>i</sup>	92% <sup>i</sup>	617 <sup>i</sup>
Tennessee--Law and Equity Court .....		173				4
Chancery Court .....		2,341				51
Circuit Court .....		96				2
Probate Court .....						
County Court .....						
General Sessions Court .....						

Note: Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. States omitted from this table did not specifically report estate cases. State courts with this jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this Report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

\* = These courts count civil cases "at issue" as opposed to at the filing of the petition or complaint.

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

Hawaii--Data do not include some estate cases reported in an unclassified category.

Indiana--Superior Court and Circuit Court--Data include some cases reported as redocketed.  
North Carolina--Some estate cases are included in an unclassified category.  
Ohio--Pending data do not include minor's settlement cases.  
Vermont--Pending data do not include cases commenced prior to January 1, 1970.

<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:

Alaska--Disposed cases include adoption and mental health cases.  
Idaho--Data include mental health cases.  
Indiana--Data include adoption cases.  
Wisconsin--Data include adoption and mental health cases.

**TABLE 23:**

**Mental health caseload for trial courts, 1981.**

*Courts reporting mental health caseload. Disposed as a percent of filed. Filed per 100,000 population.*

State and court title	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as percent of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
<b>COMPLETE STATE DATA</b>						
<b>Exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>						
Alaska--Superior Court .....		242				59
Arizona--Superior Court .....			857			(31)
Arkansas--Chancery and Probate Court .....		1,353				59
California--Superior Court .....		3,786	4,234		112%	16
Delaware--Superior Court .....	125	519	543	101	105%	87
*District of Columbia--Superior Court .....		1,106		161		175
Florida--Circuit Court .....		15,827	15,316		97%	155
Illinois--Circuit Court .....	1,742	9,886	9,796	1,898	99%	86
Iowa--District Court .....			3,756			(130)
Kansas--District Court .....		3,131	3,131		100%	131
Kentucky--Circuit Court .....		2,415	2,414		100%	66
Maine--District Court .....		682	737		108%	60
Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth.		3,085	2,765		90%	53
Montana--District Court .....	244 <sup>j</sup>	532 <sup>j</sup>	491 <sup>j</sup>	365 <sup>j</sup>	92% <sup>j</sup>	67 <sup>j</sup>
New Hampshire--Probate Court .....		258				28
Ohio--Court of Common Pleas .....		8,619	8,435		98%	80
Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas .....	107	10,193	10,211	89	100%	86
South Dakota--Circuit Court .....		581				85
Utah--District Court .....		869	1,093		126%	57
Washington--Superior Court .....		5,996				142
West Virginia--Circuit Court .....	553	3,047	2,961	639	97%	156
<b>Not exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>						
Colorado--STATE TOTAL .....	1,295	2,712	2,674	1,408	99%	91
District Court and Denver Probate Court ...	1,295	2,712	2,674	1,408	99%	91
Connecticut--STATE TOTAL .....		1,556				50
Superior Court .....	70	248	260	58	105%	8
Probate Court .....		1,308				42
North Dakota--STATE TOTAL .....		1,078	1,078		100%	164
County Court with Increased Jurisdiction ..		966	966		100%	147
County Justice Court .....		112	112		100%	17
Oregon--STATE TOTAL .....		3,857				146
Circuit Court .....		3,854				145
County Court .....		3				1
Vermont--STATE TOTAL .....	170	952	540	582	57%	185
District Court .....	169	952	540	581	57%	185
Probate Court .....	1	0	0	1		0
Minnesota--STATE TOTAL .....	695	2,165	1,671	557	77%	53
District Court, County Court and Probate	695	2,165	1,671	557	77%	53
Court .....						
<b>INCOMPLETE STATE DATA</b>						
New York--Family Court .....	3	25	38	6	152%	1
Tennessee--Circuit Court .....		374				8
Chancery Court .....		452				10
Law and Equity Court .....		26				1
County Court .....						
General Sessions Court .....						
Juvenile Court .....						

Note: Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. States omitted from this table did not specifically report mental health cases. State courts with this jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this Report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

\* = This court counts its civil cases "at issue" as opposed to at the filing of the petition or complaint.

<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category: Montana--Data include inebriation commitments.

**TABLE 24:**

**Civil appeals caseload for trial courts, 1981.**

*Courts reporting civil appeals of trial court cases and appeal of administrative agency caseload.*

*Disposed as a percent of filed.*

*Filed per 100,000 population.*

State and court title	Appeal type	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as percent of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
<b>COMPLETE STATE TOTALS</b>							
<b>Exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>							
Connecticut--Superior Court .....	A	1,599	767	1,214	1,152	158%	24
*District of Columbia--Superior Court .	A	438	86	122	402	142%	14
Idaho--District Court .....	A-T	290 <sup>J</sup>	329 <sup>J</sup>	348 <sup>J</sup>	271 <sup>J</sup>	106% <sup>J</sup>	34 <sup>J</sup>
Iowa--District Court .....	T		941	976		104%	32
Kansas--District Court .....	A-T		408				17
North Dakota--District Court .....	A-T		201	191		95%	31
Vermont--Superior Court .....	A-T	346	317	335	328	106%	61
Washington--Superior Court .....	A-T		1,665	1,081		65%	39
<b>Not exclusive court jurisdiction</b>							
Minnesota--District Court and County Court .....	A-T		1,112	692		62%	27
<b>INCOMPLETE STATE TOTALS</b>							
<b>Exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>							
Alaska--Superior Court .....	A-T <sup>f</sup>		155				38
California--Superior Court .....	A <sup>f</sup> -T		12,513	11,016		88%	52
Delaware--Superior Court .....	A-T	343 <sup>f</sup>	239 <sup>f</sup>	260 <sup>f</sup>	322 <sup>f</sup>	109% <sup>f</sup>	40 <sup>f</sup>
Florida--Circuit Court .....	A <sup>f</sup> -T		933	1,080		116%	9
Hawaii--Circuit Court .....	A	40 <sup>f</sup>	22 <sup>f</sup>	18 <sup>f</sup>	44 <sup>f</sup>	82% <sup>f</sup>	2 <sup>f</sup>
Illinois--Circuit Court .....	A	104,987 <sup>f</sup>	41,467 <sup>f</sup>	32,470 <sup>f</sup>	112,831 <sup>f</sup>	78% <sup>f</sup>	362 <sup>f</sup>
Kentucky--Circuit Court .....	A <sup>f</sup> -T		501	344		67%	14
Maine--Superior Court .....	A <sup>f</sup> -T	155	321	289	187	90%	28
Maryland--Circuit Court .....	A-T		3,000 <sup>f</sup>				70 <sup>f</sup>
Montana--District Court .....	A-T <sup>f</sup>		1,465				185
South Dakota--Circuit Court .....	A-T <sup>f</sup>		220				32
West Virginia--Circuit Court .....	A-T <sup>f</sup>	504	2,160	2,127	537	98%	111
<b>Not exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>							
Colorado--District Court and Denver Superior Court .....	A-T		570	616		108%	19
County Court .....	T <sup>f</sup>						
Nebraska--Workmens Compensation Court. District Court .....	A	85	244	221	108	91%	15
District Court .....	A <sup>f</sup> -T <sup>f</sup>						
Ohio--Court of Common Pleas .....	A	3,150	2,702	2,938	2,914	109%	25
Court of Claims .....	A <sup>f</sup>						
Oregon--Tax Court .....	A	125	258	130	253	50%	10
Circuit Court .....	A <sup>f</sup> -T <sup>f</sup>						
Puerto Rico--Superior Court .....	A-T <sup>f</sup>	157	141	105	193	74%	4
District Court .....	A	10	7	14	3	200%	1
Tennessee--Circuit Court .....	A-T		7,835				170
Law and Equity Court .....	A-T		307				7
Chancery Court .....	A-T		3,070				67
General Sessions Court .....	A <sup>f</sup>						
County Court .....	A <sup>f</sup>						
Virginia--Circuit Court .....	A-T		2,945	2,164		73%	54
District Court .....	A <sup>f</sup>						



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Note: Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. States omitted from this table did not specifically report civil appeal cases. States with this jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this Report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report any data for 1981.

\*This court counts cases "at issue" as opposed to at the filing of the petition or complaint.

Appeal type code:

A = The reported data represent appeal of administrative agency cases.

A<sup>i</sup> = The court has jurisdiction over appeal of administrative agency cases, but the data are unavailable.

T = The reported data represent appeal of trial court cases.

T<sup>i</sup> = The court has jurisdiction over appeal of trial court cases, but the data are unavailable.

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

Delaware--Data do not include some appeals that are part of the unclassified civil cases.

Hawaii--Data do not include some appeals that are part of the unclassified civil cases.

Illinois--Data do not include some appeals that are part of the unclassified civil cases.

Maryland--Data do not include some appeals that are part of the unclassified civil cases.

<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:

Idaho--Data may include some juvenile appeals.

TABLE 25: Civil jury and non-jury trial dispositions by case type, 1981.

Variations in court organization and subject matter jurisdiction:

The "+" symbol under the heading "case type" indicates what case types are reported for each piece of trial data. An "o" symbol indicates that the reported figures do not include that case type. These breakdowns were made to facilitate comparative analysis among courts and case types. Both general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts are included.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in case classifications and definitions:

Both the case categories and the data classified in each case category vary from state to state. The CSIM case types focus on subject-matter rather than on the remedy sought.

Variations in counting both cases and trials:

Caseload cannot be compared among courts that do not count cases in the same way. An "\*" indicates those courts that count civil cases "at issue" as opposed to at the filing of the petition or complaint.

The definitions used by each court to count trials are indicated in a separate column. Comparisons can be made between courts that count trials in the same way.

Appropriate analyses:

All percentage calculations that were less than 1% but greater than 0% have been rounded up to 1%. All percentage calculations that were

less than 0% but greater than -1% have been rounded down to -1%.

Trials as a percent of dispositions. Dividing the number of trials conducted by the total number of cases disposed of for the appropriate case type results in the trial rate for that case type for the court.

Jury trials as a percent of dispositions. Dividing the number of jury trials conducted by the total number of cases disposed of for the appropriate case type results in the jury trial rate for that case type for the court.

Jury trials as a percent of trials. Dividing the number of jury trials by the total number of trials conducted for that case type results in the proportion of trials that are trials by jury for that case type for the court.

Limitations on use:

Comparisons on these tables must be restricted to the court level, and must be controlled for case type, unit of count, and trial definitions. State totals have not been computed in order to avoid any temptation to compare "apples and oranges."

Care should also be taken to compare only those courts that share similar rules regarding the availability of jury trials. For example, some states make it more difficult for a criminal defendant to waive a jury trial than other states. Similarly, in some states both parties to civil litigation must agree to a jury trial, while in other states one of the parties can demand a jury trial.

TABLE 25:

Civil jury and non-jury trial dispositions by case type, 1981.

State and court. Civil case types. Jury trial definition. Dispositions per case type, number of trials, trials as a percent of dispositions, number of jury trials, jury trials as a percent of dispositions and of trials.

State and court title	Case type for which trial data given											Number of jury trials	Trials as a percent of dispositions	Jury trials as a percent of dispositions	Jury trials as a percent of trials					
	Tort	Contract	Real Property	Small Claims	Domestic Relations	Estate	Mental Health	Appeal	Miscellaneous	Unclassified	Jury/trial definition					Number of dispositions per case type	Number of trials	Trials as a percent of dispositions	Number of jury trials	Jury trials as a percent of dispositions
<b>Arizona:</b>																				
Superior Court	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	497	6%	1%	23%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	81	11%	1%	1%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	--
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	--
Justices of the Peace	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	131	26%	1%	1%
<b>California:</b>																				
Superior Court	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,783	5%	3%	51%
	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	47	27%	4%	15%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	231	90%	1%	1%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	133	94%	1%	1%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	89	93%	2%	2%
	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	939	35%	1%	2%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	43%	--	--
	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	55	22%	1%	2%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	71%	--	--
	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	589	26%	1%	1%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	77%	--	--
<b>Colorado:</b>																				
County Court	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	5%	1%	2%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	34%	--	--
<b>Connecticut:</b>																				
Superior Court	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	259	N/A	N/A	11%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	34%	--	--
<b>Delaware:</b>																				
Superior Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	7%	N/A	N/A
<b>District of Columbia:</b>																				
Superior Court*	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	296	9%	5%	60%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	1%	1%	80%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	6%	--	--
<b>Florida:</b>																				
Circuit Court	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,403	46%	7%	16%
	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	548	63%	2%	3%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	260	55%	3%	3%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	452	72%	1%	1%
	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63	55%	1%	1%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	77	57%	1%	1%



TABLE 25:  
Civil jury and non-jury trial dispositions by case type, 1981. (continued)

State and court title	Case type for which trial data given												Trials as a percent of dispositions	Number of jury trials	Jury trials as a percent of dispositions	Jury trials as a percent of trials				
	Tort	Contract	Real Property	Small Claims	Domestic Relations	Estate	Mental Health	Appeal	Miscellaneous	Unclassified	Jury/ trial defini- tion	Number of disposi- tions per case type					Number of trials			
<b>New York:</b>																				
Supreme Court and County Court*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18,189	14%	6,311	5%	35%
Civil Court of the City of New York	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,096	7%	N/A	N/A	N/A
District Court and City Court	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,616	8%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Surrogate's Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,838	5%	N/A	N/A	N/A
																1,178	2%	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>North Carolina:</b>																				
Superior Court	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,535	40%	742	5%	13%
District Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16,750	32%	515	1%	3%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	--	--	--
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	55,066	89%	90	1%	1%
<b>North Dakota:</b>																				
District Court	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,457	12%	230	2%	16%
<b>Ohio:</b>																				
Court of Common Pleas	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,695 <sup>i</sup>	8%	875 <sup>i</sup>	4%	52%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,202	22%	548	1%	5%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11,925 <sup>i</sup>	14%	--	--	--
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	448	15%	174	6%	39%
	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	118	18%	4	1%	3%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	376	5%	5	1%	1%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,799	5%	6	1%	4%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,272	12%	2	1%	1%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,992	1%	0	0%	0%
	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25 <sup>i</sup>	1%	0	0%	0%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,335	7%	111	1%	8%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,476	3%	123	1%	2%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,222	2%	28	1%	2%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,442	7%	28	1%	2%
<b>Oregon:</b>																				
Circuit Court	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,531	9%	1,094	4%	43%
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,952 <sup>i</sup>	8%	--	--	--
<b>Pennsylvania:</b>																				
Court of Common Pleas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,665	20%	1,589	6%	28%
District Justice Court	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43,179	23%	--	--	--
<b>Puerto Rico:</b>																				
Superior Court	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	453	11%	--	--	--
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	89 <sup>i</sup>	2%	--	--	--
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,054	11%	--	--	--
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,560	11%	--	--	--
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	121	11%	--	--	--



TABLE 25:  
Civil jury and non-jury trial dispositions by case type, 1981. (continued)

Note: All available data are entered in the table and all appropriate calculations are included. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable, less than 90% complete, or calculations are inappropriate.

\*A civil case is counted when it has reached issue.

-- = Not applicable.

W/A = Data are unavailable.

+ = Data are given for these case types.

i Data are not complete:

Arizona--Superior Court--Dispositions data also include miscellaneous civil, while trial data do not. Domestic relations does not include adoption from Maricopa County, modify decree or foreign decree domestic relations cases.  
--Justice of the Peace Court--Figures given include only the first nine months of the year for the Glendale Precinct, and the first ten months for the South Phoenix Precinct.  
California--Superior Court--Total domestic relations does not include some support/custody, all adoption and all paternity/bastardy cases.

Colorado--County Court--Disposition data also include trial court civil appeals, while trial data do not.

Connecticut--Superior Court--Non-jury and total trial figures for tort and contract do not include trials conducted by geographic area courts.

District of Columbia--Superior Court--Real property does not include landlord-tenant.

Georgia--Superior Court--Domestic relations does not include adoption data.

--State Court and County Court--No data were available from the State Court of DeKalb County.

Idaho--District Court--Some torts are included in unclassified.

Illinois--Circuit Court--Trial data are complete only for tort cases, and some contract and real property.

Iowa--District Court--Total estate does not include guardianship/conservatorship/trusteeship cases.

Kansas--District Court--Domestic relations cases do not include adoptions but include some tort, contract, real property, civil appeals and miscellaneous civil cases.

Maine--Superior Court--Civil trials do not include support/custody cases.

New Jersey--Superior Court--Torts only include auto torts.

Ohio--Court of Common Pleas--Tort data include only personal injury. Domestic relations trial data include marriage dissolution and support/custody.

--Court of Claims--Number of trials does not include "victims of crimes."

Oregon--Circuit Court--Domestic relations includes only marriage dissolutions.

Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Trial data for contracts do not include debt collections and wages which account for 3,183 of the 3,710 dispositions. Appeals does not include appeals from trial court.

Texas--District Court--Domestic relations does not include annulment or paternity/bastardy cases.

--County Court at Law--Domestic relations dispositions include only marriage dissolution.

Virginia--Circuit Court--Total domestic relations figures do not include adoptions and paternity/bastardy.

j Explanation of data included in the category:

Oregon--Circuit Court--Disposition data also include civil and criminal appeals, paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations and miscellaneous civil cases.

South Dakota--Circuit Court--Disposition figure also includes support/custody, paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous civil, and civil appeals. Numbers given for domestic relations are for marriage dissolution only.

Texas--The District Court--Directed verdict cases are included in the number of trials.

k Trial definition:

A = A jury trial is counted at jury selection, empaneling or swearing in.  
B = A jury trial is counted at introduction of evidence or swearing of first witness.

C = A jury trial is counted at verdict or decision.

FIGURE C: Criminal case unit of count used by trial courts, by court and state.

FIGURE D: Minimum statutory definitions of a felony, by state.

Criminal case unit of count. The CSIM Project has always been concerned about the fact that states prosecute cases in substantially different ways, and that this ultimately has an impact on the way such cases are counted by the courts. Since the publication of the 1975 volume of this series, some effort has been made to identify the various methods of counting criminal cases for each state court. The two predominant methods were either a defendant count, or a charging document count. Since charging documents could have one or more defendants, it was assumed that courts using charging documents would have fewer per capita criminal cases than those states who reported cases using the actual number of defendants. Therefore, states were grouped according to their units of count.

The Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting revealed several problems with that method of counting criminal cases. First, counting the number of charging documents is insufficient as a measure of counting cases unless one knows the possible contents of such documents. For example, when multiple defendants are involved in the same crime, is it common practice to have one or more than one defendant per document? In addition, when there are multiple offenses per incident, does common practice call for a single charging document for all offenses or a separate document for each offense?

Of equal importance to the contents of a charging document in counting criminal cases is the point in the process when a criminal case is counted. The two predominant points are at the filing of the complaint, and the filing of the information or indictment. Since the filing of the complaint occurs much earlier in the process than the filing of the information or indictment, courts that count cases at the filing of the complaint should have a much higher caseload than courts which wait until the information or indictment before counting cases.

Figure C presents information on all dimensions of the criminal unit of count: the point in the process at which criminal cases are counted; and the number of defendants per case and the contents of charging documents. This information has been organized into the following typology. The contents of the cases (i.e., the

number of possible defendants and charges) are represented by the numbers one through eleven. The point in the process at which a case is counted is represented by the letters A through E.

Criminal case unit of count codes:

Contents of case (number of defendants/number of charges) - Point at which case is counted

Contents of case:

1. Single defendant/single charge
2. Single defendant/single incident
3. Single defendant/single incident (maximum number of charges)
4. Single defendant/one or more incidents
5. Single defendant/varies with prosecutor
6. One or more defendants/single charge
7. One or more defendants/single incident
8. One or more defendants/single incident (maximum number of charges)
9. One or more defendants/one or more incidents
10. One or more defendants/varies with prosecutor
11. Varies with prosecutor/varies with prosecutor

Point at which case is counted:

- A. At the filing of the information or indictment
- B. At the filing of the information or complaint
- C. At the filing of the complaint (warrant or accusation)
- D. At the assigning of a docket number
- E. At the arraignment (first appearance)

The combination of these two dimensions of the criminal unit of count is presented for each court when criminal data are presented.

Defining felonies. Figure D illustrates the variation that exists among the states regarding the statutory definition of a felony. Although the overwhelming majority of states define felonies by possible sentences exceeding approximately one year in the state prison, almost one-third of the states define a felony as crimes with possible sentences of: substantially less than a year; two or more years; or with no minimum sentence length.



**FIGURE C:**  
Criminal case unit of count used by trial courts, by court and by state.

STATE:	General/ limited juris- diction	Point of counting a criminal case	Number of Defendants		Contents of Charging Document		
			Single defendant	One or more defendants	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlim- ited # of charges)
<b>ALABAMA:</b>							
Circuit Court	G	Indictment	X				X
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				(No data reported)
<b>ALASKA:</b>							
Superior Court	G	Indictment		X			X
District Court	L	Complaint		X			X
<b>ARIZONA:</b>							
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
<b>ARKANSAS:</b>							
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X		X		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
City Court, Police Ct.	L	Complaint	X		X		
<b>CALIFORNIA:</b>							
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
Justice Court	L	Complaint	X				X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X
<b>COLORADO:</b>							
District Court	G	First appearance for some counties/information for cases coming up from County Court.	X				X
County Court	L	Complaint/summons	X				X
<b>CONNECTICUT:</b>							
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
<b>DELAWARE:</b>							
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
Family Court	L	Complaint	X				X
Justice of the Peace Ct.	L	Complaint	X		X		
Court of Common Pleas	L	Complaint	X		X		
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	Complaint	X		X		
Alderman's Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
<b>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:</b>							
Superior Court	G	Complaint/information/ indictment	X				X
<b>FLORIDA:</b>							
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment or sworn complaint	X				(Prosecutor decides)
County Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
<b>GEORGIA:</b>							
Superior Court	G	Indictment/accusation		X			X
State Court and County Court	L	Accusation		X			X
Magistrate Court	L	Complaint	X				X
Probate Court	L	Accusation	X				X
Justice of Peace Court	L	No data reported					
Municipal Court	L	No data reported					
Civil Court	L	No data reported					
Small Claims Court	L	No data reported					
Recorder's Court, Mayor's Court, Muni- cipal Court, City Council Court, Police Court, and Crim. Ct.	L	No data reported					

STATE:	General/ limited juris- diction	Point of counting a criminal case	Number of Defendants		Contents of Charging Document			
			Single defendant	One or more defendants	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlim- ited # of charges)	One or more incidents
<b>HAWAII:</b>								
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/indictment	X					X (Most serious charge)
District Court	L	Information/complaint	X					X (Most serious charge)
<b>IDAHO:</b>								
District Court	G	Information	X					X
Magistrates Division	G	Complaint	X					X
<b>ILLINOIS:</b>								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment		X			X	
<b>INDIANA:</b>								
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X (may not be consistent)
County Court	L	Information/complaint		X				X (may not be consistent)
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	Information/complaint		X				X (may not be consistent)
City Court and Town Court	L	Information/complaint	X					X (may not be consistent)
<b>IOWA:</b>								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
<b>KANSAS:</b>								
District Court	G	First appearance/ information/indictment	X				X	
<b>KENTUCKY:</b>								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
<b>LOUISIANA:</b>								
District Court City Court and Parish Court, and Municipal Court and Traffic Court of New Orleans	G	Information/indictment	Varies			Varies		
	L	Information/complaint		X			X	
<b>MAINE:</b>								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Information/complaint		X				X
<b>MARYLAND:</b>								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Citation/information	X				X	
<b>MASSACHUSETTS:</b>								
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:	G							
Superior Court Dept.	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
Housing Court Dept.	G	Complaint	X				X	
District Court Dept.	G	Complaint	X				X	
Boston Municipal Ct.	G	Complaint	X				X	
<b>MICHIGAN:</b>								
Circuit Court	G	Information	X				X	
Recorder's Court of Detroit	L	Warrant	X				X	
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	

(continued on next page)

**FIGURE C:**  
**Criminal case unit of count used by trial courts, by court and by state. (continued)**

STATE:	General/ limited juris- diction	Point of counting a criminal case	Number of Defendants		Contents of Charging Document			
			Single defendant	One or more defendants	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlim- ited # of charges)	One or more incidents
<b>MINNESOTA:</b>								
District Court	G	Complaint	X					X
County Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
County Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
<b>MISSISSIPPI:</b> Data are unavailable								
<b>MISSOURI:</b>								
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/information indictment	Not consistent statewide (depends on prosecutor)					
<b>MONTANA:</b>								
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X
Justice of Peace Court and Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X					X
City Court	L	Complaint	X					X
<b>NEBRASKA:</b>								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X					(not consistently X observed statewide)
County Court	L	Information/complaint	X					X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X					X
<b>NEVADA:</b>								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor			
Justice Court	L	Complaint	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor			
<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE:</b>								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X		X			
District Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
<b>NEW JERSEY:</b>								
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	G	Accusation/indictment	X					X
County District Court	L	Complaint	X					X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X					X
<b>NEW MEXICO:</b>								
District Court	G	Complaint	X					X
Magistrate Court	L	Complaint	X					X
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	L	Complaint	X					X
<b>NEW YORK:</b>								
Supreme Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X (may vary with prosecutor)
County Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X (may vary with prosecutor)
Criminal Court of the City of New York	L	Docket number		X				X
District Court and City Court	L	Complaint	X					X
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
<b>NORTH CAROLINA:</b>								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X					X
District Court	L	Complaint/summons	X			X (2 max)		
<b>NORTH DAKOTA:</b>								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X					X (may vary)
County Court with In- creased Jurisdiction	L	Complaint/information	X			Varies		
County Justice Court	L	Complaint	X					X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X					X

STATE:	General/ limited juris- diction	Point of counting a criminal case	Number of Defendants		Contents of Charging Document			
			Single defendant	One or more defendants	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlim- ited # of charges)	One or more incidents
<b>OHIO:</b>								
Court of Common Pleas	G	Arraignment	X					X
County Court	L	Warrant/summons	X					X
Municipal Court	L	Warrant/summons	X					X
Mayor's Court	L	No data reported						
<b>OKLAHOMA:</b>								
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X
<b>OREGON:</b>								
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/indictment	X			(Number of charges not consistent statewide)		
District Court	L	Complaint/indictment	X			(Number of charges not consistent statewide)		
Justice Court	L	Complaint	X			(Number of charges not consistent statewide)		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
<b>PENNSYLVANIA:</b>								
		Information/docket transcript						
Court of Common Pleas	G		X					X
District Justice Court	L	Complaint	X					X
Phila. Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X					X
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	Complaint	X					X
<b>PUERTO RICO:</b>								
Superior Court	G	Accusation	X		X			
District Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
<b>RHODE ISLAND:</b>								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X					X
District Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA:</b>								
Circuit Court	G	Indictment	X					X
Magistrate Court	L	Warrant/summons	X					X
Municipal Court	L	Warrant/summons	X					X
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA:</b>								
Circuit Court	G	Complaint	X					X
<b>TENNESSEE:</b>								
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	G	Information/indictment	Not consistent statewide					
General Sessions Court	L	No data reported						
Municipal Court	L	No data reported						
<b>TEXAS:</b>								
District Court and Criminal District Court	G	Information/indictment	X					X
Constitutional County Court	L	Complaint/information	X			Varies		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
Justice of the Peace Ct.	L	Complaint	X		X			
<b>UTAH:</b>								
District Court	G	Information		X				X
Circuit Court	L	Information/citation		X				X
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Citation	X					X
<b>VERMONT:</b>								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X					X
District Court	G	Arraignment	X		X			
<b>VIRGINIA:</b>								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X		X			
District Court	L	Warrant/summons	X		X			

(continued on next page)

**FIGURE C:**  
**Criminal case unit of count used by trial courts, by court and by state. (continued)**

STATE:	General/ limited juris- diction	Point of counting a criminal case	Number of Defendants		Contents of Charging Document			
			Single defendant	One or more defendants	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlim- ited # of charges)	One or more incidents
<b>WASHINGTON:</b>								
Superior Court	G	Information		X			X	
District Court	L	Complaint/citation	X			X (2 max)		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint/citation	X			X (2 max)		
<b>WEST VIRGINIA:</b>								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X
Magistrate Court	L	Warrant		X				X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
<b>WISCONSIN:</b>								
Circuit Court	G	Initial appearance	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint/citation	X		X			
<b>WYOMING:</b>								
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X
County Court and Justice of the Peace Court	L	Complaint/information		X				X
Municipal Court	L	Citation/complaint	X		X			

Source: Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting.

**FIGURE D:**  
**Minimum statutory definitions of a felony, by state.**

<u>State</u>	<u>No minimum*</u>	<u>Less than 1 year</u>	<u>1 year</u>	<u>One year plus a day</u>	<u>2 years or more</u>
Alabama				X	
Alaska			X		
Arizona			X		
Arkansas			X		
California			X		
Colorado		6 months			
Connecticut			X		
Delaware	X				
District of Columbia			X		
Florida			X		
Georgia				X	
Hawaii				X	
Idaho				X	
Illinois			X		
Indiana				X	
Iowa	X				
Kansas			X		
Kentucky				X	
Louisiana	X				
Maine			X		
Maryland	X				
Massachusetts	X				
Michigan			X		
Minnesota				X	
Mississippi -- data are unavailable					
Missouri				X	
Montana	X				
Nebraska	X				
Nevada	X				
New Hampshire	Unknown				
New Jersey			X		
New Mexico				X	
New York				X	
North Carolina			X		
North Dakota				X	
Ohio		6 months			
Oklahoma				X	
Oregon			X		
Pennsylvania					5 years
Puerto Rico		6 months			
Rhode Island			X		
South Carolina		3 months			
South Dakota				X	
Tennessee			X		
Texas					X
Utah				X	
Vermont	X				
Virginia				X	
Washington				X	
West Virginia			X		
Wisconsin				X	
Wyoming			X		

\*In many jurisdictions, felonies are defined by statutes, not by length of sentence.

Source: Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting.

TABLE 26: Criminal filed and disposed in general jurisdiction, limited jurisdiction, and all trial courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization, subject matter jurisdiction, and case classification:

This table organizes the gross totals of Table 14 into those criminal cases heard by the different court levels. Because of the variations in court organization, subject matter jurisdiction, and case classification, comparisons of general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts from state to state are seldom appropriate.

Lack of complete data (less than 90% complete from an individual court) is responsible for the large number of blanks in the "All trial courts" columns on this table, as well as for states missing from the table. In order for a state to be included in this table, it had to have filing or disposition data that are at least 90% complete from all its trial courts.

Courts that do not break their caseload down into specific case types do generally separate caseload into civil, criminal, and juvenile cases. (Traffic may be reported separately or it may be lumped into criminal caseload.)

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in counting cases do have an impact on total caseloads. If states are not counting cases at the same beginning and ending point, total caseload is not comparable (see Figure C).

Appropriate analyses:

All percentage calculations that were less than 1% but greater than 0% have been rounded up to 1%. All percentage calculations that were less than 0% but greater than -1% have been rounded down to -1%.

Disposed as a percent of filed. This measure represents the percent of the number of filed cases that the court was able to dispose. The percent is computed by dividing the number of cases disposed by the number filed and then multiplying by one hundred. A percent over one hundred indicates that the court disposed more cases than were filed, thus reducing pending caseload. A percent significantly less than one hundred indicates that the court is not keeping up with the volume of cases being filed.

Limitations on use:

Comparisons can be made between courts that count cases in the same way. The method of counting criminal cases has the greatest influence over data reported. Consult Figure C for a listing of the groups of courts that count criminal cases in the same way.

Although data have been broken down into general and limited jurisdiction courts, this has been done to provide a flavor of the different workloads of the different levels of trial courts. Interstate comparisons should be restricted to all trial courts' data.

**TABLE 26:**  
**Criminal filed and disposed in general jurisdiction, limited jurisdiction, and all trial courts, 1981.**  
*Disposed as a percent of filed.*

State	Unit of count	General jurisdiction courts			Limited jurisdiction courts			All trial courts		
		Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent filed	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent filed	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent filed
California .....	2A-2C	67,515	60,564	90%	761,142 <sup>i</sup>	666,219 <sup>i</sup>	88% <sup>i</sup>	828,657 <sup>i</sup>	726,783 <sup>i</sup>	88% <sup>i</sup>
Colorado .....	4E/A-4C	15,002	12,414	83%	39,288 <sup>i</sup>	36,331 <sup>i</sup>	92% <sup>i</sup>	54,290 <sup>i</sup>	48,745 <sup>i</sup>	90% <sup>i</sup>
District of Columbia .	2B	28,758 <sup>i</sup>	27,497 <sup>i</sup>	96% <sup>i</sup>	--	--	--	28,758 <sup>i</sup>	27,497 <sup>i</sup>	96% <sup>i</sup>
Florida .....	5B-1C	149,999	134,340	90%	202,407 <sup>i</sup>	170,765 <sup>i</sup>	84% <sup>i</sup>	352,406 <sup>i</sup>	305,105 <sup>i</sup>	87% <sup>i</sup>
Guam .....	N/A	1,394	525	38%	--	--	--	1,394	525	38%
Hawaii .....	2B	2,711 <sup>i</sup>	1,872 <sup>i</sup>	69% <sup>i</sup>	25,222 <sup>i</sup>	25,330 <sup>i</sup>	100% <sup>i</sup>	27,933 <sup>i</sup>	27,202 <sup>i</sup>	97% <sup>i</sup>
Indiana .....	7A-7B	35,679 <sup>i</sup>	35,455 <sup>i</sup>	99% <sup>i</sup>	146,670 <sup>ij</sup>	123,963 <sup>ij</sup>	85% <sup>ij</sup>	182,349 <sup>ij</sup>	159,418 <sup>ij</sup>	87% <sup>ij</sup>
Iowa .....	2A	36,932 <sup>i</sup>	34,193 <sup>i</sup>	93% <sup>i</sup>	--	--	--	36,932 <sup>i</sup>	34,193 <sup>i</sup>	93% <sup>i</sup>
Kansas .....	2EA	32,870			NH	NH	NH	32,870		
Louisiana .....	11A-7B	386,363			38,394 <sup>i</sup>	32,913 <sup>i</sup>	86% <sup>i</sup>	424,757 <sup>i</sup>		
Maryland .....	2A-2B	45,933	40,497	88%	128,997 <sup>ij</sup>			174,930 <sup>ij</sup>		
Massachusetts .....	2B	303,709 <sup>ij</sup>			--	--	--	303,709 <sup>ij</sup>		
Missouri .....	11B	81,263 <sup>j</sup>	74,955 <sup>j</sup>	92% <sup>j</sup>	--	--	--	81,263 <sup>j</sup>	74,955 <sup>j</sup>	92% <sup>j</sup>
New Jersey .....	2B-2C	32,043	30,005	94%	413,371 <sup>ij</sup>	380,159 <sup>ij</sup>	92% <sup>ij</sup>	445,410 <sup>ij</sup>	410,160 <sup>ij</sup>	92% <sup>ij</sup>
North Carolina .....	2A-3C	68,685	66,564	97%	376,994 <sup>ij</sup>	362,991 <sup>ij</sup>	96% <sup>ij</sup>	445,679 <sup>ij</sup>	429,555 <sup>ij</sup>	96% <sup>ij</sup>
Puerto Rico .....	1C	21,441	21,830	102%	52,854 <sup>ij</sup>	52,909 <sup>ij</sup>	100%	74,295 <sup>ij</sup>	74,739 <sup>ij</sup>	101% <sup>ij</sup>
Rhode Island .....	4A-1C	5,477	4,178	76%	40,408 <sup>j</sup>	39,402 <sup>j</sup>	98% <sup>j</sup>	45,885 <sup>j</sup>	43,580 <sup>j</sup>	95% <sup>j</sup>
South Carolina .....	2A-2C	31,930 <sup>i</sup>	33,421 <sup>i</sup>	105% <sup>i</sup>	160,108			192,038 <sup>i</sup>		
Utah .....	9A-9B	3,530 <sup>j</sup>	3,027 <sup>j</sup>	86% <sup>j</sup>	50,562 <sup>ij</sup>			54,092 <sup>ij</sup>		
Vermont .....	2A-1E	19,648 <sup>j</sup>	19,135 <sup>j</sup>	97% <sup>j</sup>	NH	NH	NH	19,648 <sup>j</sup>	19,135 <sup>j</sup>	97% <sup>j</sup>
West Virginia .....	1A-1C	7,726 <sup>j</sup>	9,184 <sup>j</sup>	119% <sup>j</sup>	131,450 <sup>i</sup>	143,638 <sup>i</sup>	109% <sup>i</sup>	139,176 <sup>ij</sup>	152,822 <sup>ij</sup>	110% <sup>ij</sup>

Note: Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or the calculations are inappropriate. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

-- = Not applicable.

NH = This case type is not handled in this court.

Unit of count--The general jurisdiction code comes before the hyphen, and the limited jurisdiction courts after the hyphen.

**Criminal case unit of count codes:**

Contents of case (number of defendants/number of charges) - Point at which case is counted.

Contents of case:

1. Single defendant/single charge
2. Single defendant/single incident
3. Single defendant/single charge (maximum number charges)
4. Single defendant/one or more incidents
5. Single defendant/varies with prosecutor
6. One or more defendants/single charge
7. One or more defendants/single incident
8. One or more defendants/single incident (maximum number of charges)
9. One or more defendants/one or more incidents
10. One or more defendants/varies with prosecutor
11. Varies with prosecutor/varies with prosecution

Point at which case is counted:

- A. At the filing of the information or indictment
- B. At the filing of the information or complaint
- C. At the filing of the complaint (warrant or accusation)
- D. At the assigning of a docket number
- E. At the arraignment (first appearance)

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

- California--Limited jurisdiction and all trial courts data do not include DWI/DUI cases.
- Colorado--Data for limited jurisdiction and all trial courts do not include DWI/DUI cases.
- District of Columbia--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.
- Florida--Data for limited jurisdiction and all trial courts do not include DWI/DUI cases.
- Hawaii--Data for all courts do not include some cases that could not be separated from the unclassified category.
- Indiana--General jurisdiction court data do not include criminal appeals and miscellaneous criminal cases. Limited jurisdiction court data do not include some miscellaneous criminal cases and some cases that could not be separated from other unclassified cases.
- Iowa--Some misdemeanor cases could not be separated from the traffic/other violation data.

(continued on next page)



TABLE 26:

Criminal filed and disposed in general jurisdiction, limited jurisdiction, and all trial courts, 1981. (continued)

Louisiana--Limited jurisdiction data do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.  
 Maryland--Limited jurisdiction data do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.  
 Massachusetts--Data do not include some **limited felony** and **DWI/DUI** cases.  
 New Jersey--Limited jurisdiction court data do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.  
 North Carolina--Limited jurisdiction court data do not include all **limited felony** cases.  
 Puerto Rico--Limited jurisdiction court data do not include **DWI/DUI** cases.  
 South Carolina--General jurisdiction court data do not include **criminal appeal** cases.  
 Utah--Limited jurisdiction court data do not include **miscellaneous criminal** cases from the circuit court and **limited felonies** from the Justice of the Peace Courts.  
 West Virginia--Limited jurisdiction court data do not include **limited felony** cases from the Magistrate Court and **DWI/DUI** cases from the Municipal Court.

Indiana--Limited jurisdiction data include some **ordinance violation** cases.  
 Maryland--Limited jurisdiction data include **ordinance violation** cases.  
 Massachusetts--Data include some **ordinance violation** cases.  
 Missouri--Data include **ordinance violation** cases that demanded jury trials from municipal judges.  
 New Jersey--Limited jurisdiction court data include some **ordinance violation** cases.  
 North Carolina--Limited jurisdiction court data include **ordinance violation** cases.  
 Puerto Rico--Limited jurisdiction courts include **ordinance violation** cases.  
 Rhode Island--Limited jurisdiction and all trial court data include **traffic** cases not handled by the Administrative Adjudication Division and **ordinance violations**.  
 Utah--General jurisdiction court data include **postconviction remedy** and **sentencing review only** proceedings. Limited jurisdiction court data include **ordinance violations** from the Justice of the Peace Courts.  
 West Virginia--General jurisdiction court data include **postconviction remedy** proceedings.

JExplanation of data included in the category:

California--Limited jurisdiction and all trial courts data include some **ordinance violations** and **preliminary hearings** proceedings.

TABLE 27: Composition of criminal case filings in general jurisdiction courts, 1981.

TABLE 28: Composition of criminal case dispositions in general jurisdiction courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization and subject matter jurisdiction:

These two tables deal only with general jurisdiction courts. In states with a single-tier trial court (Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts, Missouri, South Dakota, District of Columbia, and Guam), all case types are heard in the general jurisdiction court. These courts are indicated by an "\*" before their state name. In all other states, some of the trial court case types are heard in limited jurisdiction courts.

The individual court system charts for each state (found in Part II) must be consulted to determine whether the figures for an individual case type in these tables represent the complete caseload for that case type in the particular state.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in case classifications and definitions:

Courts that do not break their caseload down into specific case types do generally separate caseload into civil, criminal, and juvenile cases. (Traffic may be reported separately or it may be reported as a part of the criminal caseload.) Consequently, these two tables are easier to aggregate than later tables that show specific case types.

Those states that reported less than 90% of complete "total" data were excluded from these tables.

Appropriate analyses:

Data from these tables may be used to identify courts with similar jurisdiction and courts that handle similar volumes of cases. These data can also be used to compute the distribution of types of criminal cases filed in each court. To compute the proportion of the total filings (dispositions) for each case type, divide the number of filings (dispositions) for each case type by the total filings (dispositions) for each court and multiply by 100.

Limitations on use:

Comparisons should not be made between courts in states with a single-tier trial court (marked with an "\*") and courts in states with both general and limited jurisdiction courts.

Comparisons can be made only between courts that use the same unit of count for counting criminal cases. Since the data contained in these tables are taken from only the general jurisdiction courts, the court system charts for each state should be checked to determine whether or not other courts in the state also handle the specific case types before comparisons of volumes of specific case types are made.

TABLE 27:  
Composition of criminal case filings in general jurisdiction courts, 1981.  
State and court. Criminal case categories.

State and court title	Unit of Count	Criminal cases filed						Total criminal
		Felony	Misdemeanor	DWI/DUI	Appeal	Miscellaneous criminal	Unclassified	
Alaska--Superior Court	7-A	1,194	(j)	NH	(j)	NH	363j	1,557j
Arizona--Superior Court	4-A	14,357i	55i	NH	1,805	429	212j	16,858
Arkansas--Circuit Court	1-A	14,565j	4,130j	(j)	(j)	NH	NH	18,695
California--Superior Court	2-A	64,993j	NH	(j)	2,522	NH	NH	67,515
Colorado--District Court	4-E/A	13,868	NH	NH	475	659	NH	15,002
Connecticut--Superior Court	2-A	6,382i	198i	NH	NH	NH	108,389j	114,969j
Delaware--Superior Court	2-A	3,114j	(j)	NH	191	(j)	NH	3,305j
*District of Columbia--Superior Court	2-B	7,814	19,036	NH	514	1,908	NH	28,758i
Florida--Circuit Court	5-B	(j)	(j)	(j)	514	(j)	149,485j	149,999
Georgia--Superior Court	7-B	37,338	17,048j	(j)	(j)	NH	NH	54,386i
*Guam--Superior Court	N/A	341	1,053	NH	NH	NH	NH	1,394
Hawaii--Circuit Court	2-B	2,291i	311i	28i	NH	81i	NH	2,711i
*Idaho--District Court	4-B	41,795	23,398j	10,330i	102j	NH	NH	35,679i
*Illinois--Circuit Court	9-A	41,795	19,116i	(j)	NH	NH	16,563j	35,679i
Indiana--Superior Court and Circuit Court	7-A	(j)	19,116i	(j)	NH	NH	16,563j	35,679i
*Iowa--District Court	2-A	8,166j	13,067i	14,346i	1,353	NH	NH	36,932i
Kansas--District Court	2-E/A	12,121	15,280	4,451	1,018	NH	NH	32,870
Kentucky--Circuit Court	2-A	3,281	2,003j	NH	597	NH	13,007j	13,604j
Maine--Superior Court	2-A	3,281	2,003j	NH	597	NH	13,007j	13,604j
Maryland--Circuit Court	2-A	(j)	(j)	NH	4,201i	(j)	41,732j	6,062i
*Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth	2-B	21,685i	(j)	29,399i	26,642	NH	225,983j	303,709i
Minnesota--District Court	2-C	10,155	2,608	NH	(j)	NH	NH	12,763i
*Missouri--Circuit Court	11-B	42,939i	42,939i	(j)	(j)	(j)	38,324j	81,263j
Montana--District Court	7-A	2,623j	615j	(j)	(j)	(j)	NH	3,238
Nebraska--District Court	2-A	(j)	(j)	(j)	2,014j	(j)	4,876j	6,890j
New Hampshire--Superior Court	1-A	3,652	NH	NH	3,303	NH	NH	6,955
New Jersey--Supreme Court and County Court	2-B	29,101	NH	NH	2,942	NH	NH	32,043
North Carolina--Superior Court	7-A	41,587j	NH	(j)	25,893	NH	NH	41,587i
North Dakota--District Court	2-A	1,233	29	NH	35	30j	NH	68,685
Ohio--Court of Common Pleas	2-E	41,076	NH	NH	NH	NH	NH	1,327j
Oregon--Circuit Court	5-B	20,198	NH	NH	NH	NH	NH	41,076
Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas	2-A/D	(j)	(j)	(j)	17,905i	(j)	71,768j	20,198i
Puerto Rico--Superior Court	1-C	12,329	9,112j	NH	(j)	NH	NH	89,673
Rhode Island--Superior Court	4-A	4,576	(j)	(j)	901j	NH	NH	21,441
Tennessee--Circuit Court and Criminal Court	11-A	(j)	(j)	3,586j	(j)	(j)	33,627j	37,213i
Texas--District Court and Criminal Court	2-A	82,872	7,646	4,759	NH	6,110	NH	101,387
Utah--District Court	9-A	(j)	(j)	NH	247i	NH	3,283j	3,530j
Vermont--District Court and Superior Court	2A/1E	3,055	16,593j	(j)	NH	NH	NH	19,648j

Virginia--Circuit Court ..... 1-A 40,444  
 Washington--Superior Court ..... 7-A 15,442  
 Wisconsin--Circuit Court ..... 2-E 14,601  
 Wyoming--District Court ..... 9-A 1,772J

2,966J  
 NH  
 34,272J  
 NH

64,328J  
 16,713  
 48,873I  
 1,772

NH  
 NH  
 NH  
 NH

409J  
 NH  
 NH  
 NH

20,509  
 1,271  
 NH  
 (J)

Tennessee--Total criminal cases do not include miscellaneous criminal cases.  
 Utah--Appeals do not include de novo appeals from Justice of the Peace Courts which are unclassified cases.  
 Wisconsin--Total criminal do not include most DWI/DUI cases, and appeal of traffic cases.

JExplanation of data included in the category:  
 Alaska--Unclassified and total criminal include probation revocation hearings and sentence review only cases.  
 Arkansas--Felony data include DWI/DUI cases. Misdemeanor data include DWI/DUI and criminal appeal cases.  
 California--Felony data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Connecticut--Total criminal and unclassified cases include ordinance violations.  
 Delaware--Felony data include misdemeanor and miscellaneous criminal cases. Total criminal and felony include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Georgia--Misdemeanor cases include criminal appeal and some DWI/DUI cases.  
 Hawaii--Misdemeanor cases include ordinance violation cases.  
 Idaho--Misdemeanor cases include ordinance violation cases. Criminal appeals include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Iowa--Felony data include third offense DWI/DUI cases.  
 Kentucky--Data include postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.  
 Maine--Misdemeanors include some criminal appeal data. Unclassified criminal and total criminal include ordinance violation cases, and postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.  
 Massachusetts--Unclassified and total criminal include ordinance violations.  
 Missouri--Misdemeanor data include some DWI/DUI cases, other DWI/DUI cases are included in the unclassified category. Unclassified and total criminal include ordinance violation cases that demanded jury trials and criminal appeals.  
 Montana--Felony cases include appeals and miscellaneous criminal cases. Misdemeanor cases include DWI/DUI, appeals and miscellaneous criminal cases.  
 Nebraska--Criminal appeals include civil appeals. Unclassified civil also include postconviction remedy proceedings. Total criminal include civil appeal and postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 New York--Felony data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 North Dakota--Data include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Puerto Rico--Misdemeanor cases include criminal appeal cases.  
 Rhode Island--Appeal cases include misdemeanor and DWI/DUI cases.  
 Tennessee--DWI/DUI cases include those appeal cases not included in the unclassified category.  
 Utah--Data include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Vermont--Misdemeanor data include DWI/DUI cases and ordinance violation cases. Total criminal data include ordinance violation cases.  
 Virginia--Misdemeanor include a few ordinance violation cases. Miscellaneous criminal include postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Wisconsin--Misdemeanor cases include some DWI/DUI cases.  
 Wyoming--Felony data include criminal appeal cases.

NH  
 NH  
 NH  
 NH

409J  
 NH  
 NH  
 NH

20,509  
 1,271  
 NH  
 (J)

Virginia--Circuit Court ..... 1-A 40,444  
 Washington--Superior Court ..... 7-A 15,442  
 Wisconsin--Circuit Court ..... 2-E 14,601  
 Wyoming--District Court ..... 9-A 1,772J

2,966J  
 NH  
 34,272J  
 NH

64,328J  
 16,713  
 48,873I  
 1,772

NH  
 NH  
 NH  
 NH

409J  
 NH  
 NH  
 NH

20,509  
 1,271  
 NH  
 (J)

Note: All available data from states that have total filings which are at least 90% complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable, or less than 90% complete.  
 (J) = This indicates the case type is included in the unclassified category unless otherwise indicated.  
 NH = This case type is known not to be handled by this court.  
 \*These states have a single-tier trial court. These courts' systems have no limited jurisdiction courts, so included in their caseload are cases that would be heard by limited jurisdiction courts elsewhere.  
 Criminal case unit of count codes:  
 Contents of case (number of defendants/number of charges) - Point at which case is counted  
 Contents of case:  
 1. Single defendant/single charge  
 2. Single defendant/single incident  
 3. Single defendant/single incident (maximum number of charges)  
 4. Single defendant/one or more incidents  
 5. Single defendant/varies with prosecutor  
 6. One or more defendants/single charge  
 7. One or more defendants/single incident  
 8. One or more defendants/single incident (maximum number of charges)  
 9. One or more defendants/one or more incidents  
 10. One or more defendants/varies with prosecutor  
 11. Varies with prosecutor/varies with prosecutor  
 Point at which case is counted:  
 A. At the filing of the information or indictment  
 B. At the filing of the information or complaint  
 C. At the filing of the complaint (warrant or accusation)  
 D. At the assigning of a docket number  
 E. At the arraignment (first appearance)  
 iData are incomplete:  
 Arizona--Some felony and misdemeanor cases are included in the unclassified category.  
 Connecticut--Some felony and misdemeanor cases are included with unclassified cases. Total criminal data do not include DWI/DUI cases.  
 District of Columbia--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Georgia--Total criminal do not include all DWI/DUI cases.  
 Hawaii--Some criminal cases from all case types are included in the unclassified civil category.  
 Idaho--DWI/DUI cases do not include some cases included with preliminary hearing proceedings.  
 Indiana--Some misdemeanors are included in the unclassified category. Total criminal do not include appeal and miscellaneous criminal.  
 Iowa--Some misdemeanors are included in traffic data. Some DWI/DUI cases are included in felony data. Total criminal do not include all misdemeanor cases.  
 Maine--Total criminal cases do not include DWI/DUI cases, and some criminal appeals.  
 Maryland--Some criminal appeals are in the unclassified category.  
 Massachusetts--Some felony and DWI/DUI cases are included in the unclassified category. Total criminal data exclude miscellaneous criminal cases from the Superior Court Department.  
 Minnesota--Total criminal data do not include criminal appeal cases.  
 Missouri--Some misdemeanors are included with unclassified cases.  
 New York--Total criminal cases do not include criminal appeal and miscellaneous criminal cases.  
 Oregon--Total criminal cases do not include criminal appeal cases.  
 Pennsylvania--Criminal appeals de novo are included in the unclassified category.

NH  
 NH  
 NH  
 NH

64,328J  
 16,713  
 48,873I  
 1,772

NH  
 NH  
 NH  
 NH

409J  
 NH  
 NH  
 NH

20,509  
 1,271  
 NH  
 (J)

TABLE 28:  
Composition of criminal case dispositions in general jurisdiction courts, 1981.  
State and court. Criminal case categories.

State and court title	Unit of Count	Criminal cases disposed						Total criminal
		Felony	Misdemeanor	DWI/DUI	Appeal	Miscellaneous criminal	Unclassified	
Alaska--Superior Court	7-A	802	(j)	NH	(j)	NH	363j	1,165j
Arizona--Superior Court	4-A	15,314j	67j	NH	1,725	NH	206j	17,313j
Arkansas--Circuit Court	1-A	13,026j	4,836j	(j)	(j)	NH	NH	17,864
California--Superior Court	2-A	58,314j	NH	(j)	2,250	NH	NH	60,564
Colorado--District Court	4-E/A	11,047	NH	NH	355	1,012	NH	12,414
Connecticut--Superior Court	2-A	4,996j	232j	NH	NH	NH	106,769j	111,997j
*District of Columbia--Superior Court	2-B	7,843	17,752	NH	NH	1,902	NH	27,497
Florida--Circuit Court	5-B	(j)	(j)	(j)	505	133,835j	NH	134,340
Georgia--Superior Court	7-B	34,711	15,687j	(j)	(j)	NH	NH	50,398j
*Guam--Superior Court	N/A	65	460	NH	NH	NH	NH	525
Hawaii--Circuit Court	2-B	1,457j	340j	30j	NH	45j	NH	1,872j
*Idaho--District Court	4-B	24,831j	24,831j	11,215j	95j	NH	NH	45,931j
*Illinois--Circuit Court	9-A	44,096			NH		NH	
Indiana--Superior Court and Circuit Court	7-A	(j)	17,757j	(j)	1,312	NH	17,698j	35,455j
*Iowa--District Court	2-A	7,961j	12,387j	12,533j			NH	34,193j
Kansas--District Court	2-E/A	12,971	17,567j		(j)	NH	NH	30,538j
Kentucky--Circuit Court	2-A	(j)		NH	430	NH	11,543j	11,973j
Maine--Superior Court	2-A	3,008	1,987j		(j)	(j)	757j	5,752j
Maryland--Circuit Court	2-A	(j)	(j)	NH	3,714j	(j)	36,783j	40,497
Minnesota--District Court	2-C	8,063	2,010	NH		NH	NH	10,073j
*Missouri--Circuit Court	11-B	(j)	39,198j	(j)	(j)	2,589	33,168j	74,955j
Nebraska--District Court	2-A	(j)	(j)	(j)	1,880j	(j)	4,037j	5,917j
New Hampshire--Superior Court	1-A	3,727	NH	NH	3,422	NH	NH	7,149
New Jersey--Superior Court	2-B	27,055	NH	NH	2,950	NH	NH	30,005
New York--Supreme Court and County Court	7-A	42,085j	NH	(j)			NH	42,085j
North Carolina--Superior Court	2-A	41,341	NH	NH	25,223	NH	NH	66,564
North Dakota--District Court	2-A	1,223	31	NH	33	39j	NH	1,326j
Ohio--Court of Common Pleas	2-E	41,492	NH	NH	NH	NH	NH	41,492
Oregon--Circuit Court	5-B	19,549	NH	NH			NH	19,549j
Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas	2-A/D	(j)	(j)	(j)	17,367j	(j)	60,736j	78,103
Puerto Rico--Superior Court	1-C	12,228	9,602j	NH	(j)	NH	NH	21,830
Rhode Island--Superior Court	4-A	3,495	(j)	(j)	683j	NH	NH	4,178
Texas--District Court and Criminal District Court	2-A	71,667	7,020	4,044	NH	5,191	NH	87,922
Utah--District Court	9-A	(j)	(j)	NH	185j	NH	2,842j	3,027j
Vermont--District Court and Superior Court	2A/1E	2,845	16,290j	(j)	NH	NH	NH	19,113j
Virginia--Circuit Court	1-A	38,809j	(j)	NH	22,479j	343j	NH	61,631j
Washington--Superior Court	7-A	15,502j	NH	NH	(j)	NH	NH	15,502
Wisconsin--Circuit Court	2-E	13,199	32,800j	(j)	NH	NH	NH	45,999j
Wyoming--District Court	9-A	1,816j	NH	NH	(j)	NH	NH	1,816

Note: All available data from states that had total dispositions which were at least 90% complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete.

(j) = This indicates the case type is included in the unclassified category unless otherwise indicated.

NH = This case type is known not to be handled by this court.

\*These states have a single-tier trial court. These courts' systems have no limited jurisdiction, so included in their caseload are cases that would be heard by limited jurisdiction courts elsewhere.

Criminal case unit of count codes:

- Contents of case (number of defendants/number of charges) - Point at which case is counted
- Contents of case:
  1. Single defendant/single charge
  2. Single defendant/single incident
  3. Single defendant/single incident (maximum number of charges)
  4. Single defendant/one or more incidents
  5. Single defendant/varies with prosecutor
  6. One or more defendants/single charge
  7. One or more defendants/single incident
  8. One or more defendants/single incident (maximum number of charges)
  9. One or more defendants/one or more incidents
  10. One or more defendants/varies with prosecutor
  11. Varies with prosecutor/varies with prosecutor

Point at which case is counted:

- A. At the filing of the information or indictment
- B. At the filing of the information or complaint
- C. At the filing of the complaint (warrant or accusation)
- D. At the assigning of a docket number
- E. At the arraignment (first appearance)

<sup>1</sup>Data are incomplete:

- Arizona--Felony and misdemeanor cases do not include some cases in the unclassified category. Total criminal do not include miscellaneous criminal cases.
- Connecticut--Some felony and misdemeanor cases are included in the unclassified category. Total criminal data do not include DMI/DUI cases.
- Georgia--Total criminal do not include all DMI/DUI cases.
- Hawaii--Some data from each case type are included with civil cases.
- Idaho--DMI/DUI cases do not include some cases included with preliminary hearing proceedings.
- Indiana--Some misdemeanor cases are included with other unclassified cases. Total criminal cases do not include criminal appeal and miscellaneous criminal cases.
- Iowa--Some misdemeanors are included in traffic data. Some DMI/DUI cases are included in felony data. Total criminal do not include all misdemeanor cases.
- Kansas--Total criminal cases do not include DMI/DUI cases.
- Maine--Total criminal cases do not include DMI/DUI cases and some criminal appeals.
- Maryland--Some criminal appeal cases are included in the unclassified criminal category.
- Minnesota--Total criminal data do not include criminal appeal cases.

- Missouri--Some misdemeanors are included with unclassified cases. New York--Total criminal data do not include criminal appeal and miscellaneous criminal cases from the County Court.
- Oregon--Total criminal data do not include criminal appeal cases.
- Pennsylvania--Criminal appeals de novo are included in the unclassified category.
- Utah--Criminal appeals de novo are included in the unclassified category.
- Virginia--Some criminal appeals are counted with felony cases.
- Wisconsin--Total criminal data do not include all DMI/DUI cases.

jExplanation of data included in the category:

- Alaska--Data include probation revocation hearings and sentence review only proceedings.
- Arkansas--Misdemeanor data include DMI/DUI and criminal appeal cases. Felony data include DMI/DUI cases.
- California--Felony cases include DMI/DUI cases.
- Connecticut--Unclassified criminal and total criminal include ordinance violation cases.
- Georgia--Misdemeanor cases include criminal appeals, some DMI/DUI and county ordinance violation cases. Total criminal include DMI/DUI cases.
- Idaho--Misdemeanor cases include ordinance violation cases. Criminal appeals include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.
- Iowa--Felony data include third offense DMI/DUI cases.
- Kansas--Misdemeanor cases include criminal appeal cases.
- Kentucky--Data include postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.
- Maine--Unclassified criminal and total criminal data include ordinance violations, and postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings. Misdemeanor cases include some criminal appeals.
- Missouri--Misdemeanor data include some DMI/DUI cases. Other DMI/DUI cases are included in the unclassified category. Unclassified and total criminal include ordinance violation cases that demanded a jury trial.
- Nebraska--Criminal appeal data include civil appeal cases. Unclassified includes postconviction remedy proceedings. Total criminal includes civil appeal cases and postconviction remedy proceedings.
- North Dakota--Felony data include DMI/DUI cases.
- North Dakota--Data include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.
- Puerto Rico--Misdemeanor cases include criminal appeal cases.
- Rhode Island--Criminal appeals include misdemeanor and DMI/DUI cases.
- Utah--Data include postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.
- Vermont--Misdemeanor data include DMI/DUI cases and ordinance violation cases. Total criminal include ordinance violation cases.
- Virginia--Felony include some criminal appeal cases. Criminal appeals include misdemeanors and a few ordinance violation cases. Miscellaneous criminal and total criminal include postconviction remedy proceedings.
- Washington--Felony data include criminal appeal cases.
- Wisconsin--Misdemeanor cases include some DMI/DUI cases.
- Wyoming--Felony data include criminal appeal cases.

**TABLE 29: Triable felony, limited felony, misdemeanor and DWI/DUI filings and dispositions for trial courts, 1981.**

Variations in court organization and subject matter jurisdiction:

Caseload in this table is from both general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts. The same case types may be handled in different courts from state to state. Only state totals can be compared among these states using the same unit of count. The court system charts in Part II should be consulted for a brief summary of the jurisdiction of each court. States reported in this table include all courts with jurisdiction over these criminal case types.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in case classification and definitions:

Both the case categories and the data classified in the case categories vary from state to state. Because such problems exist for these and all other case categories, the case types used in this Report are those chosen for inclusion in the State Court Model Annual Report and State Court Model Statistical Dictionary.

Even with use of the model case types, however, caseloads are not comparable if state statutes vary as to the types of criminal cases classified as felonies or misdemeanors. Certain drug offenses, for example, may be serious felonies in one state but only misdemeanors in another.

Only states reporting data that could be displayed in the specific case types are included in this table, and then only if the data are at least 90% complete. Many courts do not break data down beyond the broad criminal category.

In past volumes of this series, separate tables were presented for the various case types consolidated into this table. However, since DWI/DUI cases can be either felonies or misdemeanors, and with the introduction of the new limited felony category, the presentation of separate tables would not present a complete picture of either felonies or misdemeanors. Therefore, this table was developed to provide a more comprehensive look at the total state offense caseload. Unless otherwise indicated, these figures do not include appeals.

Variations in counting cases:

The various units of count in criminal cases are identified in the column labeled "unit of count." A description of these units can be found in Figure C.

Appropriate analysis:

All percentage calculations that were less than 1% but greater than 0% have been rounded up to 1%. All percentage calculations that were

less than 0% but greater than -1% have been rounded down to -1%.

Disposed cases as percent of filed. This measure represents the percent of the number of filed cases of which the court was able to dispose. The percent is computed by dividing the number of cases disposed of by the number filed and then multiplying by one hundred. A percent over one hundred indicates that the court disposed of more cases than were filed, thus reducing pending caseload. A percent significantly less than one hundred indicates that the court is not keeping up with the volume of cases being filed. This figure was not computed when the filed and disposed figure were not comparable.

Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population. The unit of state population used on all court caseload charts is 100,000. This measure compensates for variations in state population and gives a more realistic basis for comparison of caseloads among states of various sizes. If the number of filings was not available but the number of dispositions was available, the number of cases disposed per unit of population was entered in this column in place of the number of cases filed per population unit, and the use of this alternative quantity was indicated by enclosing it in parentheses. Population figures represent the 18-year-old-plus state population. If all other factors (court jurisdiction, case definition, etc.) are similar, the filed-per-unit-of-population statistic will permit direct comparisons among states of the number of filed cases.

Limitations on use:

Only STATE TOTALS can be compared in those states where more than one court has jurisdiction over the case type. Comparisons can be made between the data reported for a state with an individual court that has exclusive jurisdiction over the type of case, and the STATE TOTALS for states where more than one court has jurisdiction. Comparisons should be avoided for states not reporting data for one or more courts that have jurisdiction over the case type.

Comparisons should be made only between those cases that use the same unit of count for counting criminal cases.

It should also be noted that any change(s) in the caseload of a court may not indicate a change in the actual "offense-rate" within a state, but may merely reflect changes in the criminal code, law enforcement policies and/or citizen reporting rates--among other things. These data should only be used for court management measures.

**TABLE 29:**

**Triable felony, limited felony, misdemeanor and DWI/DUI filings and dispositions for trial courts, 1981.**  
*Number of filed and disposed cases for triable felony, limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI and unclassified criminal (when unclassified includes any combination of felony, misdemeanor and DWI/DUI cases).*

*State and court totals for disposed as a percent of filed. State filings (dispositions) per 100,000 adult population.*

State and court title	Unit of Count	State/court totals											
		Triable Felony		Limited Felony		Misdemeanor		DWI/DUI		Unclassified		Filed Disposed as a % of population	
		Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed		
<b>ALABAMA--</b>													
Circuit Court	2-A												
District Court	2-C												
Municipal Court	2-C												
<b>ALASKA:</b>													
STATE TOTAL													
Superior Court	7-A	1,194	802										
District Court	7-C	1,194	802										
<b>ARIZONA:</b>													
STATE TOTAL													
Superior Court	4-A	14,357i	15,314i										
Justices of the Peace	1-C	14,357i	15,314i										
Municipal Court	1-C												
<b>ARKANSAS:</b>													
STATE TOTAL													
Circuit Court	1-A	14,565j	13,026j										
Municipal Court	1-C	14,565j	13,026j										
Police Court and City Court	1-C												
<b>CALIFORNIA:</b>													
STATE TOTAL													
Superior Court	2-A	64,993j	58,314j	128,850j	107,640j	632,292j	556,579j						
Justice Court	2-C	64,993j	58,314j										
Municipal Court	2-C												
<b>COLORADO:</b>													
STATE TOTAL													
District Court	4-E/A	13,868	11,047	5,375	5,375	33,913j	30,956j						
County Court	4-C	13,868	11,047										
<b>CONNECTICUT--</b>													
Superior Court	2-A	6,382i	4,996i										
<b>DELAWARE:</b>													
STATE TOTAL													
Superior Court	2-A	3,114j	3,300j										
Court of Common Pleas	1-C	3,114j	3,300j										
Family Court	2-C												
Municipal Court of Wilmington	1-C												
Alderman's Court	1-C												
Justice of the Peace Court	1-C												
<b>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA--</b>													
Superior Court	2-B	4,283	4,402	3,531	3,441	19,036	17,752						
<b>FLORIDA--</b>													
Circuit Court	5-B												
County Court	1-C												
<b>GEORGIA:</b>													
STATE TOTAL													
Superior Court	7-B	37,338	34,711										
State Court and County Court	7-C	37,338	34,711										
Probate Court	2-C												
Justice of the Peace Court	N/A												
Small Claims Court	N/A												
Municipal Court	N/A												





**TABLE 29:**  
**Triable felony, limited felony, misdemeanor and DWI/DUI filings and dispositions for trial courts, 1981. (continued)**

State and court title	Unit of Count	State/court totals												Filed (disposed) as a % of population			
		Triable Felony		Limited Felony		Misdemeanor		DWI/DUI		Unclassified		Filed					
		Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed				
<b>NEW MEXICO: STATE TOTAL</b>																	
District Court	2-C	X	X	NH	NH	X	X	11,843	NH	5,927j	5,001j	5,927j	5,001j	5,927j	5,001j	84%j	651j
Magistrate Court	2-C	NH	NH			28,700		3,414		5,927j	5,001j						
Bernalillo County																	
Metropolitan Court	2-C	NH	NH			22,595j		8,429									
<b>NEW YORK: STATE TOTAL</b>																	
Supreme Court and County Court		41,587j	42,085j														
Criminal Court of the City of New York	7-A	41,587j	42,085j	NH	NH			(j)	(j)					41,587	42,085	101%	319
District Court and City Court	9-D	NH	NH	X	X			X	X	189,051	182,109	189,051	182,109			96%	1,452
Town and Village Justice Court	2-C	NH	NH	X	X			X	X	210,902j	169,343j	210,902j	169,343j			80%j	1,620j
	1-C	NH	NH														
<b>NORTH CAROLINA: STATE TOTAL</b>																	
Superior Court	2-A	42,792	41,341	NH	NH					376,994j	362,991j	419,786j	404,332j	42,792	41,341	96%j	9,717j
District Court	3-C	NH	NH	X	X			X	X	376,994j	362,991j	376,994j	362,991j			97%j	991
	2-A	1,233	1,223	NH	NH	29	31	NH	NH					1,262	1,254	99%	270
County Court with Increased Jurisdiction	5-B	NH	NH			11,627j	11,146j	(j)	(j)								
County Justice Court	2-C	NH	NH			2,727j	2,700j	(j)	(j)								
Municipal Court	2-C	NH	NH														
<b>OHIO: STATE TOTAL</b>																	
Court of Common Pleas	2-E	41,076	41,492	20,238	19,751	310,483j	313,776j	90,110j	88,445j					461,907j	463,464j	100%j	5,955j
Municipal Court	2-C	NH	NH	18,857	18,385	285,099j	288,512j	74,936	73,789					41,076	41,492	101%	530
County Court	2-C	NH	NH	1,381	1,366	25,384j	25,264j	15,174	14,656					378,892j	380,686j	100%j	4,885j
Mayor's Court	N/A	NH	NH											41,939j	41,286j	98%j	541j
<b>OREGON: STATE TOTAL</b>																	
Circuit Court	5-B	20,198	19,549	NH	NH					79,851j	79,425j	20,198	19,549			97%	1,045
District Court	5-B	NH	NH														
Justice Court	5-C	NH	NH														
Municipal Court	1-C	NH	NH														
<b>PENNSYLVANIA--Court of Common Pleas</b>																	
District Justice Court	2-A/D	X	X	NH	NH	X	X	X	X	71,768j	60,736j	71,768j	60,736j			85%j	814j
Philadelphia Municipal Court	2-C	NH	NH			104,910j								148,637j		(1,685)j	
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	2-C	NH	NH			33,078j	30,723j	(j)	(j)								
	2-C	NH	NH			12,760j											
<b>PUERTO RICO: STATE TOTAL</b>																	
Superior Court	1-C	12,329	12,228	9,279	9,279	52,687j	53,232					74,295j	74,739j	21,441j	21,830j	101%j	3,760j
District Court	1-C	NH	NH			9,112j	9,602j	NH	NH					52,854j	52,909j	100%j	1,085j
	1-C	NH	NH	9,279	9,279	43,575j	43,630j										
<b>RHODE ISLAND: STATE TOTAL</b>																	
Superior Court	4-A	4,576	3,495	6,933	6,933	30,475j	32,469j	X	X	901j	683j	45,885j	43,580j			95%	6,409j
District Court	1-C	NH	NH			33,475j	32,469j	(j)	(j)	901j	683j	5,477j	4,178j			76%	765j
	1-C	NH	NH	6,933	6,933	33,475j	32,469j	(j)	(j)			40,408j	39,402j			98%j	5,644j
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA: STATE TOTAL</b>																	
Circuit Court	2-A	X	X	6,573	6,573			X	X	31,930j	33,421j	192,038j	33,421j			105%j	8,592j
Municipal Court	2-C	NH	NH							31,930j	33,421j	31,930j	33,421j				1,429j

STATE	COURT	11-A	NH	NH	X	3,586J	(J)	(J)	33,627J	920	87%	82,731	87%	920
TEXAS	STATE TOTAL	82,872	71,667	NH	NH	7,646	7,020	4,044	95,277	82,731	87%	920		
	District Court and Criminal	82,872	71,667	NH	NH	7,646	7,020	4,044	95,277	82,731	87%	920		
	District Court			NH	NH									
	County Court at Law and			NH	NH									
	Constitutional County			NH	NH									
	Court			NH	NH									
	Municipal Court			NH	NH									
	Justice of the Peace Court			NH	NH									
	1-C			NH	NH									
	9-A	X	X	NH	NH	X	X	X	3,283J	2,842J	86%	344J		
	9-B	NH	NH	NH	NH	X	X	X	9,767J	9,767J		1,024J		
	2-C	NH	NH	NH	NH	3,877i								
	STATE TOTAL	3,055	2,847	NH	NH	16,593J	16,290J							
	Superior Court	34	22	NH	NH									
	1-E	3,021	2,823	NH	NH	16,593J	16,290J							
	9-A	40,444	38,809J	NH	NH	2,966	X	X						
	9-B	40,444	38,809J	NH	NH									
	2-C	NH	NH	NH	NH									
	STATE TOTAL	15,442	15,502J	NH	NH	36,401	25,442							
	Superior Court	15,442	15,502J	NH	NH									
	3-C	NH	NH	NH	NH	86,602	61,940							
	Municipal Court	NH	NH	NH	NH	10,155	7,129							
	9-A	X	X	NH	NH	X	X	X	7,726J	9,184J	119%	552J		
	9-C	NH	NH	NH	NH	124,714J	136,713J							
	1-C	NH	NH	NH	NH									
	STATE TOTAL	14,601	13,199	NH	NH	34,272J	32,800J							
	2-E	14,601	13,199	NH	NH	34,272J	32,800J							
	1-C	NH	NH	NH	NH									
	STATE TOTAL	1,772J	1,816J	NH	NH	1,772J	1,816J							
	District Court	1,772J	1,816J	NH	NH									
	Justice of the Peace Court			NH	NH									
	and County Court			NH	NH									
	Municipal Court			NH	NH									

Note: All available data that are at least 90% complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or the calculations are inappropriate. States omitted from this table did not have any courts report their criminal data in a way that the data could meaningfully be separated into these major state case types. State courts with those jurisdictions can be identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this Report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

NH = This case type is not handled in this court.  
X = Data for this case type are known to be included in the unclassified category, but are unavailable by category.  
--- = Not applicable.

**Criminal case unit of count codes:**  
Contents of case (number of defendants/number of charges) - Point at which case is counted  
Contents of case:  
1. Single defendant/single charge  
2. Single defendant/single incident  
3. Single defendant/single charge (maximum number of charges)  
4. Single defendant/one or more incidents  
5. Single defendant/varies with prosecutor

6. One or more defendants/single charge  
7. One or more defendants/single incident  
8. One or more defendants/single incident (maximum number of charges)  
9. One or more defendants/one or more incidents  
10. One or more defendants/varies with prosecutor  
11. Varies with prosecutor/varies with prosecutor  
Point at which case is counted:  
A. At the filing of the information or indictment  
B. At the filing of the information or complaint  
C. At the filing of the complaint (warrant or accusation)  
D. At the assigning of a docket number  
E. At the arraignment (first appearance)

1 Data are incomplete:  
Arizona--Superior Court--Some felony and misdemeanor data are included in the unclassified category.  
--Justices of the Peace and Municipal Court--A couple of months data are missing from two precincts.  
Arkansas--Municipal Court--Some data are missing from four courts, and no data are available from seven courts.  
California--Justice Court and Municipal Court totals do not include UMI/DUI cases.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 29:

Triable felony, limited felony, misdemeanor and DWI/DUI filings and dispositions for trial courts, 1981. (continued)

Colorado--County Court totals do not include DWI/DUI cases. Total data do not include some limited felony cases.  
 Connecticut-- Felony and misdemeanor cases are included in the unclassified category.  
 Delaware--Court of Common Pleas--Some limited felonies are still in the preliminary hearing count.  
 Florida--Total cases do not include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Georgia--Superior Court--Total cases do not include all DWI/DUI cases.  
 --State Court and County Court--Data are unavailable from DeKalb County.  
 --Misdemeanor data do not include all DWI/DUI cases.  
 --Probate Court--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Hawaii--Circuit Court--Some cases from each category are counted in the unclassified civil count.  
 --District Court--Some misdemeanors are counted with ordinance violation cases.  
 Idaho--Some DWI/DUI cases are not included with these data.  
 Illinois-- Limited felony data are available for Cook County only.  
 Indiana--Superior Court--Some misdemeanors are included in the unclassified category.  
 --City Court and Town Court--Data are missing from six courts and a number of cases which could not be separated from redocketed proceedings.  
 Iowa--Some misdemeanors are included with traffic data. Some DWI/DUI cases are included with felony data.  
 Kansas--Some limited felony data are unavailable.  
 Louisiana--City Court--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Maine--Some misdemeanors are included with traffic data. Total cases do not include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Massachusetts--Some felony and DWI/DUI cases are included in the unclassified category.  
 New Jersey--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.  
 North Carolina--Data do not include all limited felony cases.  
 Ohio-- DWI/DUI and total state cases do not include cases from the Mayor's Court.  
 Puerto Rico--District Court--Data do not include DWI/DUI cases.  
 South Dakota--Data do not include Class 2 misdemeanors.  
 Utah--Data were provided by 135 of 149 Justices of the Peace.

Explanation of data included in the category:  
 Alabama--District Court-- Misdemeanor and total cases include limited felony, DWI/DUI and preliminary hearings.  
 Alaska--Superior Court--Unclassified data include misdemeanor, criminal appeals, as well as probation revocation hearings and sentence review only proceedings. Court totals include probation revocation hearings and sentence review only proceedings.  
 --District Court-- Misdemeanor cases include ordinance violation cases.  
 Arizona--Superior Court--Unclassified data include felony and misdemeanor cases.  
 Arkansas--Circuit Court-- Felony data include some DWI/DUI cases. Misdemeanor cases include DWI/DUI and criminal appeal cases. Totals include criminal appeal cases.  
 California--Superior Court-- Triable felony data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 --Justice Court and Municipal Court-- Limited felony cases include preliminary hearings cases bound over, and other transfers.  
 Misdemeanor data include some ordinance violation cases.  
 Colorado--County Court-- Misdemeanor data include de novo criminal appeals.  
 Connecticut--Unclassified cases include ordinance violation cases.  
 Delaware--Superior Court--Filings include misdemeanor and miscellaneous criminal cases. In addition, dispositions also include appeals de novo.  
 Florida--Circuit Court--Data include some miscellaneous criminal cases.  
 Georgia--Superior Court-- Misdemeanor and total cases include criminal appeals, some DWI/DUI cases and county ordinance violations.  
 --State Court and County Court-- Misdemeanor data include some DWI/DUI cases.  
 Idaho-- Misdemeanor cases include ordinance violation cases.  
 Indiana--County Court and Municipal Court of Marion County--Data include ordinance violation cases.  
 Iowa-- Felonies include some DWI/DUI cases.  
 Kansas-- Triable felony include some limited felony cases.  
 --Disposed misdemeanor cases include criminal appeal cases.  
 Kentucky--Circuit Court-- Felony data include misdemeanor cases, and postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.  
 Maine--Data include criminal appeal cases.  
 Maryland--Circuit Court--Unclassified data include miscellaneous criminal and appeals.  
 --District Court--Data include ordinance violations.  
 Massachusetts--Unclassified data include ordinance violations.  
 Minnesota--County Court--Data include ordinance violations.  
 Missouri--All data include ordinance violations. In addition, filed data include criminal appeal cases.  
 Nebraska--District Court--Data include some miscellaneous criminal cases and postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 --County Court--Data include ordinance violation cases.  
 New Hampshire-- Misdemeanors include some DWI/DUI cases.  
 New Jersey--Data include ordinance violation cases.  
 Louisiana--District Court--Data include criminal appeals.  
 --Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court-- Misdemeanors include ordinance violation cases.  
 New York--County Court-- Triable felonies include DWI/DUI cases.  
 --District Court--Data include ordinance violation cases.  
 North Carolina--Data include ordinance violation cases.  
 North Dakota-- Misdemeanors include DWI/DUI and appeal cases.  
 Ohio--Data include appeals and ordinance violation cases.  
 Oregon--Data include ordinance violation cases.  
 Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas--Data also include appeal and miscellaneous criminal cases.  
 --District Justice Court--Data include ordinance violations.  
 --Philadelphia Municipal Court-- Misdemeanors include DWI/DUI cases.  
 --Pittsburgh City Magistrates--Data include ordinance violations.  
 Puerto Rico--Superior Court-- Misdemeanors and total cases include criminal appeals.  
 --District Court--Data include ordinance violations.  
 Rhode Island--Superior Court--Data include criminal appeals.  
 --District Court-- Misdemeanors and total cases include some traffic, ordinance violation and DWI/DUI cases.  
 South Carolina--Circuit Court--Data include miscellaneous criminal cases.  
 South Dakota-- Misdemeanors include DWI/DUI and appeals.  
 Tennessee--Circuit Court--Data include some appeals.  
 Texas--Data include criminal appeal cases.  
 Utah--District Court--Data include some criminal appeal cases, and sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 --Circuit Court--Data include miscellaneous criminal cases.  
 --Justice of the Peace Court-- Misdemeanors include ordinance violations.  
 Vermont-- Misdemeanors include DWI/DUI and ordinance violation cases.  
 Virginia--Circuit Court-- Disposed felonies include some criminal appeals.  
 --District Court--Data include ordinance violation cases.  
 Washington--Data include criminal appeal cases.  
 West Virginia--Circuit Court--Data include criminal appeal and miscellaneous criminal cases and postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 --Magistrate Court-- Misdemeanors include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Wisconsin-- Misdemeanors include some DWI/DUI cases.  
 Wyoming--Data include criminal appeals.

TABLE 30: Criminal appeals caseload for trial courts, 1981.

TABLE 31: Preliminary hearing proceedings for trial courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization and subject matter jurisdiction:

Caseload in these tables is from both general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts. The same case types may be handled in different courts from state to state. Only state totals can be compared among these states using the same unit of count. To facilitate comparisons, the states in these tables have been grouped into three categories: those states where a court has exclusive jurisdiction over a case type and where it reported complete data; those states where more than one court handles a case type and each court submitted complete data; and those states where data from any one of the courts with that casetype jurisdiction are incomplete. The court system charts in Part II should be consulted for a brief summary of the jurisdiction of each court.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in case classification and definitions:

For the first year, limited felonies (e.g., those felonies that are finally disposed in limited jurisdiction courts) are counted with the regular felony count, and not with the preliminary hearing data. The preliminary hearing count in this table represents only those felonies that are likely to also be counted in general jurisdiction felony counts (e.g., in this table preliminary hearings include such things as cases bound over, etc.). The case categories and the data classified in the case categories, however, vary from state to state.

Because such problems exist for these and all other case categories, the case types used in this report are those chosen for inclusion in the State Court Model Annual Report and State Court Model Statistical Dictionary.

Even with use of the model case types, however, caseloads are not comparable if state statutes vary as to the types of criminal cases classified as felonies or misdemeanors. Certain drug offenses, for example, may be serious felonies in one state but only misdemeanors in another.

Only states reporting data that could be displayed in the specific case types are included in the tables, and then only if the data are at least 90% complete. Many courts do not break data down beyond the broad civil, criminal, traffic, and juvenile categories.

Variations in counting cases:

Each of these tables has a column indicating the unit of count. This distinction is highlighted further in Figure C of this Report.

Appropriate analysis:

All percentage calculations that were less than 1% but greater than 0% have been rounded up

to 1%. All percentage calculations that were less than 0% but greater than -1% have been rounded down to -1%.

Disposed cases as percent of filed. This measure represents the percent of the number of filed cases of which the court was able to dispose. The percent is computed by dividing the number of cases disposed of by the number filed and then multiplying by one hundred. A percent over one hundred indicates that the court disposed of more cases than were filed, thus reducing pending caseload. A percent significantly less than one hundred indicates that the court is not keeping up with the volume of cases being filed. This measure was not computed if the filing and disposition data were not comparable.

Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population. The unit of state population used on all court caseload charts is 100,000. This measure compensates for variations in state population and gives a more realistic basis for comparison of caseloads among states of various sizes. If the number of filings was not available but the number of dispositions was available, the number of cases disposed per unit of population was entered in this column in place of the number of cases filed per population unit, and the use of this alternative quantity was indicated by enclosing it in parentheses. Population figures used in the criminal tables represent the 18-year-old-plus state population. If all other factors (court jurisdiction, case definition, etc.) are similar, the filed-per-unit-of-population statistic will permit direct comparisons among states of the number of filed cases.

Limitations on use:

In these criminal case type tables, only STATE TOTALS can be compared in those states where more than one court has jurisdiction over the case type. Comparisons can be made between the data reported for a state with an individual court that has exclusive jurisdiction over the type of case, and the STATE TOTALS for states where more than one court has jurisdiction. Comparisons should be avoided for states not reporting data for one or more courts that have jurisdiction over the case type.

Comparisons should be made only between those cases that use the same unit of count for counting criminal cases.

It should also be noted that any change(s) in the caseload of a court may not indicate a change in the actual "offense-rate" within a state, but may merely reflect changes in the criminal code, law enforcement policies and/or citizen reporting rates--among other things. These data should only be used for court management measures.

**TABLE 30:**  
**Criminal appeals caseload for trial courts, 1981.**  
*Courts reporting criminal appeals caseload. Disposed as a percent of filed.*  
*Filed per 100,000 adult population.*

State and court title	Unit of Count	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as percent of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
<b>COMPLETE STATE DATA</b>							
<b>Exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>							
Arizona--Superior Court .....	4-A	491	1,805	1,726	570	96%	91
California--Superior Court .....	2-A		2,522	2,250		89%	14
Delaware--Superior Court .....	2-A		191				44
Florida--Circuit Court .....	5-B		514	505		98%	7
Idaho--District Court .....	4-B	79 <sup>j</sup>	102 <sup>j</sup>	95 <sup>j</sup>	86	93% <sup>j</sup>	16 <sup>j</sup>
Iowa--District Court .....	2-A		1,353	1,312		97%	65
Kansas--District Court .....	2-E/A		1,018				43
Kentucky--Circuit Court .....	2-A		597	430		72%	23
Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth .....	2-B		26,642				616
Missouri--Circuit Court .....	11-B			2,589			(57)
Nebraska--District Court .....	2-A		2,014 <sup>j</sup>	1,880 <sup>j</sup>		93% <sup>j</sup>	178 <sup>j</sup>
New Hampshire--Superior Court .....	1-A		3,303	3,422		104%	486
New Jersey--Superior Court .....	2-B	695	2,942	2,950	687	100%	54
North Carolina--Superior Court .....	2-A	6,449	25,893	25,223	7,119	97%	599
Rhode Island--Superior Court .....	4-A		901	683		76%	126
Washington--Superior Court .....	7-A		1,271				41
Virginia--Circuit Court .....	1-A		20,509				516
<b>Not exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>							
Texas--County Court at Law and Constitutional County Court .....	5-B		64,389				622
<b>INCOMPLETE STATE DATA</b>							
Colorado--District Court .....	4-E/A		475	355		75%	22
County Court .....	4-C						
Maryland--Circuit Court .....	2-A		4,201 <sup>i</sup>	3,714 <sup>i</sup>		88% <sup>i</sup>	135 <sup>i</sup>
North Dakota--District Court .....	2-A		35	33		94%	7
County Court with Increased Jurisdiction .....	5-B						
Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas ....	2-A/D	3,404 <sup>i</sup>	17,905 <sup>i</sup>	17,367 <sup>i</sup>	3,942 <sup>i</sup>	97% <sup>i</sup>	203 <sup>i</sup>
Utah--District Court .....	9-A		247 <sup>i</sup>	185 <sup>i</sup>		75% <sup>i</sup>	26 <sup>i</sup>

Note: All available data that are at least 90% complete are in this table. Blank spaces indicate that either the data were unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. States omitted from this table did not specifically report criminal appeals in the trial courts. State courts with the jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this Report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

9. One or more defendants/one or more incidents
10. One or more defendants/varies with prosecutor
11. Varies with prosecutor/varies with prosecution

Point at which case is counted:

- A. At the filing of the information or indictment
- B. At the filing of the information or complaint
- C. AT the filing of the complaint (warrant or accusation)
- D. At the assigning of a docket number
- E. At the arraignment (first appearance)

Criminal case unit of count codes:

Contents of case (number of defendants/number of charges)  
 - Point at which case is counted

Contents of case:

1. Single defendant/single charge
2. Single defendant/single incident
3. Single defendant/single incident (maximum number of charges)
4. Single defendant/one or more incidents
5. Single defendant/varies with prosecutor
6. One or more defendants/single charge
7. One or more defendants/single incident
8. One or more defendants/single incident (maximum number of charges)

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

- Maryland--Some appeals could not be separated from the unclassified criminal category.  
 Pennsylvania--Data do not include de novo appeals.  
 Utah--Data do not include de novo appeals from the Justice of the Peace Court.

<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:

- Idaho--Data include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.  
 Nebraska--Data include civil appeal cases.

**TABLE 31:**  
**Preliminary hearing proceedings for trial courts, 1981.**  
*Courts reporting felony preliminary proceedings. Disposed as a percent of filed. Filed per 100,000 adult population.*

State and court title	Unit of Count	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as percent of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
<b>COMPLETE STATE DATA</b>							
<b>Exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>							
Alaska--District Court .....	7-C		2,021 <sup>j</sup>	1,335 <sup>j</sup>		66% <sup>j</sup>	724
Colorado--County Court .....	4-C		6,907	6,907		100%	321
Delaware--Court of Common Pleas .....	1-C			5,746 <sup>j</sup>			(961) <sup>j</sup>
District of Columbia--Superior Court ...	2-B		3,836	3,836		100%	780
Florida--County Court .....	1-C		3,535	3,535		100%	46
Hawaii--District Court .....	2-B		830	830		100%	118
Idaho--District Court .....	4-B	2,542 <sup>j</sup>	6,194 <sup>j</sup>	6,890 <sup>j</sup>	1,846 <sup>j</sup>	111% <sup>j</sup>	953 <sup>j</sup>
Iowa--District Court .....	2-A			1,854			(64)
Kentucky--District Court .....	2-C		29,914 <sup>j</sup>	28,054 <sup>j</sup>		94% <sup>j</sup>	1,150 <sup>j</sup>
Maine--District Court .....	9-B		2,962 <sup>j</sup>	2,871 <sup>j</sup>		97% <sup>j</sup>	362 <sup>j</sup>
Missouri--Circuit Court .....	11-B		14,790	13,399		91%	411
North Carolina--District Court .....	3-C		25,906 <sup>j</sup>	25,906 <sup>j</sup>		100% <sup>j</sup>	600 <sup>j</sup>
Rhode Island--District Court .....	1-C		1,651	2,127		129%	231
South Dakota--Circuit Court .....	2-C		2,268 <sup>j</sup>				469 <sup>j</sup>
Virginia--District Court .....	1-C		43,777 <sup>j</sup>	43,777 <sup>j</sup>		100% <sup>j</sup>	1,101 <sup>j</sup>
Washington--District Court .....	3-C		10,678 <sup>j</sup>	5,764 <sup>j</sup>		54% <sup>j</sup>	347 <sup>j</sup>
West Virginia--Magistrate Court .....	9-C	7,950 <sup>j</sup>	13,249 <sup>j</sup>	13,731 <sup>j</sup>	7,468 <sup>j</sup>	104% <sup>j</sup>	946 <sup>j</sup>
<b>Not exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>							
Nebraska--STATE TOTAL .....			6,208 <sup>j</sup>				547 <sup>j</sup>
County Court .....	2-B		4,766 <sup>j</sup>	4,585 <sup>j</sup>		96% <sup>j</sup>	420 <sup>j</sup>
Municipal Court .....	2-C		1,442 <sup>j</sup>				127 <sup>j</sup>
New Hampshire--STATE TOTAL .....			3,935 <sup>j</sup>				579 <sup>j</sup>
District Court .....	1-C		3,844 <sup>j</sup>				565 <sup>j</sup>
Municipal Court .....	1-C		91 <sup>j</sup>				13 <sup>j</sup>
New Mexico--STATE TOTAL .....			12,133 <sup>j</sup>				1,333 <sup>j</sup>
Magistrate Court .....	2-C		11,060 <sup>j</sup>				1,215 <sup>j</sup>
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court.	2-C		1,073 <sup>j</sup>				118 <sup>j</sup>
North Dakota--STATE TOTAL .....			1,483 <sup>j</sup>	1,479 <sup>j</sup>		100% <sup>j</sup>	317 <sup>j</sup>
County Court with Increased Jurisdiction .....	5-B		1,278 <sup>j</sup>	1,250 <sup>j</sup>		98% <sup>j</sup>	273 <sup>j</sup>
County Justice Court .....	2-C		205 <sup>j</sup>	229 <sup>j</sup>		112% <sup>j</sup>	44 <sup>j</sup>
Ohio--STATE TOTAL .....			34,606	34,606		100%	446
County Court .....	2-C		3,085	3,085		100%	40
Municipal Court .....	2-C		31,521	31,521		100%	406
Pennsylvania--STATE TOTAL .....			79,490 <sup>j</sup>				901 <sup>j</sup>
Philadelphia Municipal Court .....	2-C		15,899 <sup>j</sup>	15,893 <sup>j</sup>		100% <sup>j</sup>	180 <sup>j</sup>
District Justice Court .....	2-C		53,737	53,737		100%	609
Pittsburgh City Magistrates .....	2-C		9,854 <sup>j</sup>				112 <sup>j</sup>
Puerto Rico--STATE TOTAL .....		9,234 <sup>j</sup>	11,029	14,312	5,951 <sup>j</sup>	130%	558
Superior Court .....	1-C	173	890	845	218	95%	45
District Court .....	1-C	9,061 <sup>j</sup>	10,139	13,467	5,733 <sup>j</sup>	133%	513
South Carolina--STATE TOTAL .....		2,167 <sup>j</sup>	18,950	18,755	2,362 <sup>j</sup>	99%	848
Magistrate Court .....	2-C	1,373 <sup>j</sup>	14,520	13,996	1,897 <sup>j</sup>	96%	650
Municipal Court .....	2-C	794 <sup>j</sup>	4,430	4,759	465 <sup>j</sup>	107%	198
Utah--STATE TOTAL .....			3,186 <sup>j</sup>	2,992 <sup>f</sup>			334 <sup>j</sup>
Circuit Court .....	9-B		2,992	2,992		100%	314
Justice of the Peace Court .....	2-C		194 <sup>j</sup>				20 <sup>j</sup>

State and court title	Unit of Count	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as percent of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
<b>INCOMPLETE STATE DATA:</b>							
Arizona--Justices of the Peace .....	1-C	5,010 <sup>ij</sup>	18,477 <sup>ij</sup>	17,879 <sup>ij</sup>	5,871 <sup>ij</sup>	97% <sup>ij</sup>	927 <sup>ij</sup>
New York--Criminal Court of the City of New York .....	9-D			2,400			(14)
District Court .....	2-C		5,517	5,517		100%	42
Town and Village Court .....	1-C						
Oregon--District Court .....	5-B	1,814 <sup>j</sup>	12,893 <sup>j</sup>	12,903 <sup>j</sup>	1,804 <sup>j</sup>	100% <sup>j</sup>	667 <sup>j</sup>
Justice Court .....	5-C						

Note: All available data that are at least 90% complete are included in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or the calculations are inappropriate. States omitted from this table either do not have preliminary hearings, or did not specifically report preliminary hearings. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

**Criminal case unit of count codes:**

Contents of case (number of defendants/number of charges) - Point at which case is counted

Contents of case:

1. Single defendant/single charge
2. Single defendant/single incident
3. Single defendant/single incident (maximum number of charges)
4. Single defendant/one or more incidents
5. Single defendant/varies with prosecutor
6. One or more defendants/single charge
7. One or more defendants/single incident
8. One or more defendants/single incident (maximum number of charges)
9. One or more defendants/one or more incidents
10. One or more defendants/varies with prosecutor
11. Varies with prosecutor/varies with prosecutor

Point at which case is counted:

- A. At the filing of the information or indictment
- B. At the filing of the information or complaint
- C. At the filing of the complaint (warrant or accusation)
- D. At the assigning of a docket number
- E. At the arraignment (first appearance)

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

Arizona--Some data are missing for two precincts.

<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:

Alaska--Data include limited felony cases.  
 Arizona--Data include limited felony cases.  
 Idaho--Data include limited felony cases.  
 Kentucky--Data include limited felony cases.  
 Maine--Data include limited felony cases.  
 Nebraska--Data include limited felony cases.  
 New Hampshire--Data include limited felony cases.  
 New Mexico--Data include limited felony cases.  
 North Carolina--Data include a few limited felony cases.  
 North Dakota--Data include limited felony cases.  
 Oregon--Data include limited felony cases.  
 Pennsylvania--Data include limited felony cases.  
 Puerto Rico--District Court--Pending data include limited felony cases.  
 South Carolina--Pending data include limited felony cases.  
 South Dakota--Data include limited felony cases.  
 Utah--Justice of the Peace Court--Data include limited felony cases.  
 Virginia--Data include limited felony cases.  
 Washington--Data include limited felony cases.  
 West Virginia--Data include limited felony cases.



TABLE 32: Criminal disposition types for trial courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization and subject matter jurisdiction:

These tables display data for the general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts that report manner-of-disposition data that are at least 90% complete.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in definitions:

This table indicates the various units used in counting cases from state to state. Only a few states report sufficiently complete data to make between-state comparisons of the proportion of total caseload disposed by each manner of disposition.

Appropriate analyses:

All percentage calculations that were less than 1% but greater than 0% have been rounded up to 1%. All percentage calculations that were less than 0% but greater than -1% have been rounded down to -1%.

Number and percent of total dispositions for each manner of disposition. Dividing the number

of cases for each manner of disposition by the total number of similar cases results in the proportions of cases disposed by each manner of disposition. These figures can be compared between courts that count cases in the same way (i.e., the same unit of count).

Limitations on use:

The distribution of the proportions of cases by different manners of disposition is affected by the method used for counting cases in the court. Dismissals will make up a higher percentage of dispositions in those courts that use a paper-based or charge-based count. Before making comparisons between states and courts, be sure that they both use a similar unit of count.

The distribution is also affected by the order with which procedures are carried out by the court and the prosecutor. The proportion of dismissals will be lower in courts that screen cases before filing them than in courts that screen cases after they are filed.

In addition, care should be taken to ensure that a dismissal in one state means the same as a dismissal in another state. For example, some states may distinguish between dismissals by prosecutors and by judges, while others may treat them as the same.

TABLE 32:

Criminal disposition types for trial courts, 1981.

Courts reporting criminal disposition types. Pleas, total convictions, trial convictions, acquitted, nolle prosequi, and dismissed. Each disposition type as a percent of criminal dispositions.

State and court title	Unit of count	Total criminal dispositions	Case types*	Total plea		Trial conviction		Total conviction		Acquittal		Nolle/prosequi dismissal	
				Number	percent of disposed	Number	percent of disposed	Number	percent of disposed	Number	percent of disposed	Number	percent of disposed
Arizona--Superior Court .....	4-A	15,381 <sup>i</sup>	TF-M	10,844 <sup>i</sup>	71% <sup>i</sup>	5,264 <sup>j</sup>	9% <sup>j</sup>	50,346	86%	1,224 <sup>j</sup>	2% <sup>j</sup>	2,835 <sup>i</sup>	18% <sup>i</sup>
California--Superior Court .....	2-A	58,314	TF-D	45,982 <sup>i</sup>	77% <sup>i</sup>	1,197 <sup>j</sup>	3% <sup>j</sup>	37,985	82%	864 <sup>j</sup>	2% <sup>j</sup>	6,093 <sup>i</sup>	10% <sup>i</sup>
Justice Court .....	2-C	46,569	M-ORD	36,788 <sup>i</sup>	79% <sup>i</sup>	5,909 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	400,144	78%	4,252 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	7,258 <sup>i</sup>	15% <sup>i</sup>
Municipal Court .....	2-C	512,010	M-ORD	394,235 <sup>i</sup>	77% <sup>i</sup>	207	6%			58	2%	106,247 <sup>i</sup>	21% <sup>i</sup>
Delaware--Superior Court .....	2-A	3,300	TF-M-A	1,901	58%							1,098	33%
District of Columbia--Superior Court ..	2-B	22,154	TF-M	7,738 <sup>i</sup>	35% <sup>i</sup>	2,459	2%	57,051	43%	1,442 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	8,769 <sup>i</sup>	40% <sup>i</sup>
Florida--Circuit Court .....	5-B	133,835	TF-M-D-Mc	54,592	41%	2,424	1%	105,119	62%	3,162 <sup>j</sup>	2% <sup>j</sup>	47,940 <sup>i</sup>	36% <sup>i</sup>
County Court .....	1-C	170,765	M	102,695	60%							42,113 <sup>i</sup>	25% <sup>i</sup>
Georgia--Superior Court .....	7-B	73,355	TF-M-D-A-ORD	48,121	66%							15,406	21%
State Court and County Court .....	7-C	77,588 <sup>i</sup>	M-D	51,994 <sup>i</sup>	67% <sup>i</sup>							18,473 <sup>i</sup>	24% <sup>i</sup>
Probate Court .....	2-C	4,780	M	4,380	92%							371	8%
Hawaii--Circuit Court .....	2-B	1,827 <sup>i</sup>	TF-M-D	760 <sup>i</sup>	42% <sup>i</sup>	162 <sup>i,j</sup>	9% <sup>i,j</sup>	922 <sup>i</sup>	50% <sup>i</sup>	35 <sup>i</sup>	2% <sup>i</sup>	720 <sup>i</sup>	39% <sup>i</sup>
District Court .....	2-B	25,041 <sup>i</sup>	M-D	30,638	43%	3,619	5%	13,811 <sup>i</sup>	55% <sup>i</sup>	(J)	(J)	10,738 <sup>i,j</sup>	43% <sup>i,j</sup>
Illinois--Circuit Court .....	9-A	70,651	TF	16,980	56%	1,063	3%	34,257	48%	2,485	3%	26,746	38%
Kansas--District Court .....	2-E/A	30,453	TF-M-A	16,980	56%			18,043	59%	387	1%	9,145	30%
Montana--District Court .....	7-A	2,725	TF-M-D-A-Mc	1,745	64%	81	3%	1,826	67%	27	1%	627	23%
New Jersey--Superior Court .....	2-B	34,158	TF	21,150	62%	1,633	5%	22,783	67%	1,123	3%	10,252	30%
New York--Supreme Court and County Court .....	7-A	42,085	TF-D	31,062	74%	3,051	7%	34,113	81%	1,219	3%	6,753	16%
Criminal Court of the City of New York .....	9-D	182,109	LF-M-D	88,453	49%	584	1%	89,037	49%	692	1%	59,117	32%
District Court and City Court .....	2-C	169,343	LF-M-D-ORD	98,995	58%	1,100	1%	100,095	59%	690	1%	65,381	39%
North Carolina--Superior Court .....	2-A	66,564	TF-A	362,991 <sup>i</sup>	55% <sup>i</sup>			35,712	54%			19,197 <sup>i</sup>	29% <sup>i</sup>
District Court .....	3-C	362,991 <sup>i</sup>	LF-M-D-ORD	199,994 <sup>i</sup>	55% <sup>i</sup>							81,407 <sup>i</sup>	22% <sup>i</sup>
Ohio--Court of Common Pleas .....	2-E	41,492	TF	28,201 <sup>i</sup>	68% <sup>i</sup>							5,012 <sup>i</sup>	12% <sup>i</sup>
County Court .....	2-C	37,373	M-D-A-ORD	26,976 <sup>i</sup>	72% <sup>i</sup>							6,793 <sup>i</sup>	18% <sup>i</sup>
Municipal Court .....	2-C	362,301	M-D-A-ORD	242,384 <sup>i</sup>	67% <sup>i</sup>							53,572 <sup>i</sup>	15% <sup>i</sup>
Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas ..	2-A/D	60,736	TF-M-D-A-Mc	30,028	49%	10,885	10%	67,608	64%	5,993	6%	8,128	13%
District Justice Court .....	2-C	104,910	M-ORD	56,723	54%							9,733	9%
Puerto Rico--Superior Court .....	1-C	21,830	TF-M-A	7,675	35%	2,582	12%	10,257	47%	2,421	11%	8,577	39%
District Court .....	1-C	43,630	M-ORD	16,306	37%	2,402	6%	18,708	43%	4,722	11%	19,384	44%
South Carolina--Circuit Court .....	2-A	33,421	TF-M-D-Mc	24,068	72%	1,070	3%	25,138	75%	299	1%	7,120	21% <sup>i</sup>
South Dakota--Circuit Court .....	2-C	10,911	TF-M-D-A	8,141 <sup>i</sup>	75% <sup>i</sup>							2,301 <sup>i</sup>	21% <sup>i</sup>
Tennessee--Circuit Court and Criminal Court .....	11-A	33,375	TF-M-A	21,500 <sup>i</sup>	64% <sup>i</sup>	2,837	9%	24,337	73%	845	3%	4,756 <sup>i</sup>	14% <sup>i</sup>
Texas--District Court and Criminal District Court .....	2-A	82,731	TF-M-D	46,214	56%	2,878	4%			881	1%	31,561	38%
Utah--District Court .....	9-A	2,842	TF-M-PS	2,003 <sup>i</sup>	70% <sup>i</sup>							432 <sup>i</sup>	15% <sup>i</sup>
Vermont--Superior Court .....	2-A	22	TF	9	41%							6	27%
District Court .....	1-E	19,113	TF-M-D-ORD	12,737 <sup>i</sup>	67% <sup>i</sup>							5,499	29%
Virginia--Circuit Court .....	1-A	61,631	TF-M-A-Mc-ORD	25,627 <sup>i</sup>	42% <sup>i</sup>							12,370 <sup>i</sup>	20% <sup>i</sup>
Washington--Superior Court .....	7-A	15,502	TF-A	9,271	60%			9,271	60%	732	5%	2,927	19%
District Court .....	3-C	80,253	M-D	63,223	79%			63,223	79%	4,161	5%	13,869	17%
Wyoming--District Court .....	9-A	1,816	TF-A	952 <sup>i</sup>	52% <sup>i</sup>							13,869	17%

Note: All available data that are 90% complete are entered in this table. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable, or less than 90% complete, or the calculations are inappropriate. Percentages of the various disposition types do not sum to 100% due to missing disposition types like "other" and "transfer."

\*Reported data may include non-criminal cases when they could not be separated from the criminal data (e.g., ordinance violation cases).

- Case type code:  
 A = Criminal appeal  
 D = DWI/DUI  
 LF = Limited felony  
 M = Misdemeanor  
 MC = Miscellaneous criminal  
 ORD = Ordinance violation  
 PS = Postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.  
 TF = Triable felony

**Criminal case unit of count codes:**

- Contents of case (number of defendants/number of charges) - Point at which case is counted:
1. Single defendant/single charge
  2. Single defendant/single incident
  3. Single defendant/single charge (maximum number of charges)
  4. Single defendant/one or more incidents
  5. Single defendant/varies with prosecutor
  6. One or more defendants/single charge
  7. One or more defendants/single incident
  8. One or more defendants/single incident (maximum number of charges)
  9. One or more defendants/one or more incidents
  10. One or more defendants/varies with prosecutor
  11. Varies with prosecutor/varies with prosecutor

**Point at which case is counted:**

- A. At the filing of the information or indictment
- B. At the filing of the information or complaint
- C. At the filing of the complaint (warrant or accusation)
- D. At the assigning of a docket number
- E. At the arraignment (first appearance)

**1>Data are incomplete:**

- Arizona--Data do not include some cases which could not be separated from unclassified.
- California--Some pleas could not be separated from trial convictions. Some dismissals could not be separated from acquittals.
- District of Columbia--Pleas and dismissals do not include those included with trial data.
- Florida--Some dismissals are included with acquittals.
- Georgia--State Court--No data are available from DeKalb County. Some DWI/DUI cases are included with traffic/other violation data.
- Hawaii--Circuit Court--Some criminal cases are included with reopened civil cases.
- District Court--Some misdemeanors are included with traffic/other violation cases.
- North Carolina--Superior Court--Dismissals do not include dismissals after the jury is sworn.
- District Court--Total criminal do not include all limited felony cases. Data do not include pleas and dismissals after the jury is sworn.
- Ohio--Pleas and dismissals do not include cases counted after the jury is sworn.
- South Dakota--Pleas and dismissals do not include cases counted after the jury is sworn.
- Tennessee--Pleas and dismissals do not include cases counted after the jury is sworn.
- Utah--Data are pretrial only.
- Vermont--Pleas do not include pleas during a trial.
- Virginia--Pleas and dismissals do not include those after the jury is sworn.
- Wyoming--Pleas and dismissals are pre-trial only.

**JExplanation of data included in the category:**

- California--Some trial convictions include guilty pleas. Some acquittals include dismissals.
- Florida--Acquittals include some dismissals.
- Hawaii--Circuit Court--Trial convictions include guilty pleas.
- District Court--Dismissals include acquittals.

TABLE 33: Criminal jury and non-jury trial dispositions by case type, 1981.

Variations in court organization and subject matter jurisdiction:

The "+" symbol under the heading "case type" indicates what case types were reported for each piece of trial data. An "o" symbol indicates that the reported figures do not include that case type. These breakdowns were made to facilitate comparative analysis among courts and case types. Both general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts are included.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in case classifications and definitions:

Both the case categories and the data classified in each case category vary from state to state. The CSIM case types focus on subject-matter rather than on the remedy sought.

Variations in counting both cases and trials:

The criminal unit of count and jury trial definition are indicated for each court. Caseload cannot be compared among courts that do not count cases in the same way or at the same time.

Appropriate analyses:

All percentage calculations that were less than 1% but greater than 0% have been rounded up to 1%. All percentage calculations that were less than 0% but greater than -1% have been rounded down to -1%.

Trials as a percent of dispositions.

Dividing the number of trials conducted by the total number of cases disposed of for the appropriate case type results in the trial rate for that case type for the court.

Jury trials as a percent of dispositions.

Dividing the number of jury trials conducted by the total number of cases disposed of for the appropriate case type results in the jury trial rate for that case type for the court.

Jury trials as a percent of trials. Dividing the number of jury trials by the total number of trials conducted for that case type results in the proportion of trials that are trials by jury for that case type for the court.

Limitations on use:

Comparisons on these tables must be restricted to the court level, and must be controlled for case type, unit of count, and trial definitions. State totals have not been computed in order to avoid any temptation to compare "apples and oranges."

Care should also be taken to compare only those courts that share similar rules regarding the availability of jury trials. For example, some states make it more difficult for a criminal defendant to waive a jury trial than other states. Similarly, in some states both parties to civil litigation must agree to a jury trial, while in other states one of the parties can demand a jury trial.

**TABLE 33:**

**Criminal jury and non-jury trial dispositions by case type, 1981.**

*State and court. Criminal case types. Jury trial definition. Dispositions per case type, number of trials, trials as a percent of dispositions, number of jury trials, jury trials as a percent of dispositions and of trials.*

State, Court Title and Unit of Count	Case Type					Unit of count	Jury/ trial defini- tion	Number of disposi- tions per case type	Number of trials	Trials as a percent of dispo- sitions	Number of jury trials	Jury trials as a percent of dispo- sitions	Jury trials as a percent of trials
	Felony	Misdemeanor	DWI/DUI	Appeal	Miscellaneous								
Alabama:													
Circuit Court .....	+	+	+	+	o	2-A	C	27,685	8,881	32%	1,631	6%	18%
Arizona:													
Superior Court .....	+	o	o	o	o	4-A	A	15,314 <sup>i</sup>	826 <sup>i</sup>	5% <sup>i</sup>	749 <sup>i</sup>	5% <sup>i</sup>	91% <sup>i</sup>
	o	+	o	o	o	4-A	A	67 <sup>i</sup>	9 <sup>i</sup>	13% <sup>i</sup>	1 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	11% <sup>i</sup>
	o	o	o	+	o	4-A	A	1,726	313	18%	1	1%	1%
California:													
Superior Court .....	+	o	+	o	o	2-A	A	58,314	6,488	11%	4,544	8%	70%
	o	o	o	+	o	2-A	A	2,250	1,662	74%	0	0%	0%
Justice Court .....	+	o	o	o	o	2-C	A	7,336	3,268	45%	12	1%	1%
	o	+	o	o	o	2-C	A	46,569 <sup>j</sup>	2,153 <sup>j</sup>	5% <sup>j</sup>	409 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	19% <sup>j</sup>
Municipal Court .....	+	o	o	o	o	2-C	A	100,304	51,001	51%	96	1%	1%
	o	+	o	o	o	2-C	A	512,010 <sup>j</sup>	10,272 <sup>j</sup>	2% <sup>j</sup>	3,997 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	39% <sup>j</sup>
Colorado:													
County Court .....	o	+	o	+	o	4-C	A	30,956	1,489	5%	212	1%	14%
Connecticut:													
Superior Court .....	+	+	o	o	o	2-A	A	111,765 <sup>j</sup>	1,105 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>			
Delaware:													
Superior Court .....	+	+	o	+	o	2-A	A	3,300 <sup>j</sup>	330	10% <sup>j</sup>	290	9% <sup>j</sup>	88%
Court of Common Pleas .....	o	+	o	o	o	1-C	A	10,037			42	1%	
District of Columbia:													
Superior Court .....	+	o	o	o	o	2-B	A	7,843	646	8%	599	8%	93%
	o	+	o	o	o	2-B	A	17,752	834	5%	605	3%	73%
Florida:													
Circuit Court .....	+	+	+	o	+	5-B	A	133,835	4,625	3%	3,344	2%	72%
County Court .....	o	+	o	o	o	1-C	A	170,765	8,704	5%	1,818	1%	21%
Georgia:													
Superior Court .....	+	o	o	o	o	7-B	C	53,814	4,622	9%	3,516	7%	76%
	o	+	+	+	o	7-B	C	19,541 <sup>j</sup>	545 <sup>j</sup>	3% <sup>j</sup>	290 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	53% <sup>j</sup>
State Court and County Court ..	o	+	+	o	o	7-C	C	77,588 <sup>i</sup>	2,897 <sup>i</sup>	4% <sup>i</sup>	920 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	32% <sup>i</sup>
Probate Court .....	o	+	o	o	o	2-C	C	4,780	27	1%	--		
Hawaii:													
Circuit Court .....	+	+	o	o	o	2-B	A	1,797 <sup>i</sup>	199 <sup>i</sup>	11% <sup>i</sup>	171 <sup>i</sup>	10% <sup>i</sup>	86% <sup>i</sup>
	o	o	+	o	o	2-B	A	30 <sup>i</sup>	1 <sup>i</sup>	3% <sup>i</sup>	1 <sup>i</sup>	3% <sup>i</sup>	100% <sup>i</sup>
Idaho:													
District Court .....	+	o	o	o	o	4-A	A	3,261	2,364	72%			
	o	+	o	o	o	4-A	A	24,831 <sup>j</sup>	15,667 <sup>j</sup>	63% <sup>j</sup>			
	o	o	+	o	o	4-A	A	11,215	9,028	80%			
	o	o	o	+	o	4-A	A	95 <sup>j</sup>	36 <sup>j</sup>	38% <sup>j</sup>			
Illinois:													
Circuit Court .....	+	o	o	o	o	7-A	C	44,096	6,044	14%	1,504	3%	25%
Indiana:													
County Court .....	+	+	+	o	o	7-B	C	44,437 <sup>j</sup>	4,935 <sup>j</sup>	11% <sup>i</sup>	173 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	4% <sup>j</sup>
Iowa:													
District Court .....	+	+	+	+	o	2-A	A	34,193 <sup>i</sup>	2,062 <sup>i</sup>	6% <sup>i</sup>	792 <sup>i</sup>	2% <sup>i</sup>	38% <sup>i</sup>
Kansas:													
District Court .....	+	o	o	o	o	2-E/A	A	12,971	742	6%	553	4%	75%
	o	+	o	+	o	2-E/A	A	17,567	787	4%	98	1%	12%
Louisiana:													
District Court .....	+	+	o	+	+	11-A	B				1,073		

(continued on next page)

**TABLE 33:**  
**Criminal jury and non-jury trial dispositions by case type, 1981. (continued)**

State, Court Title and Unit of Court	Case Type					Unit of count	Jury/ trial defini- tion	Number of disposi- tions per case type	Number of trials	Trials as a percent of dispo- sitions	Number of jury trials	Jury trials as a percent of dispo- sitions	Jury trials as a percent of trials
	Felony	Misdemeanor	DWI/DUI	Appeal	Miscellaneous								
Missouri: Circuit Court .....	+	+	o	+	o	11-B	B	74,955	9,951	13%	1,011	1%	10%
New York: Supreme Court and County Court ..	+	o	+	o	o	7-A	C	42,085	4,270	10%			
Criminal Court of the City of New York .....	o	+	+	o	o	9-D	C		1,189		521		44%
North Carolina: Superior Court .....	+	o	o	o	o	2-A	A	41,341	2,837	7%	2,837	7%	100%
	o	o	o	+	o	2-A	A	25,223	1,427	6%	1,427	6%	100%
North Dakota: District Court .....	+	+	o	+	+	2-A	C	1,326 <sup>j</sup>	245 <sup>j</sup>	18% <sup>j</sup>	45 <sup>j</sup>	3% <sup>j</sup>	18% <sup>j</sup>
Ohio: Court of Common Pleas .....	+	o	o	o	o	2-E	A	41,492	4,112	10%	2,436	6%	59%
Municipal Court .....	o	+	o	+	o	2-C	A	288,512	12,555	4%	747	1%	1%
	o	o	+	o	o	2-C	A	73,789	4,642	6%	641	1%	14%
County Court .....	o	+	o	+	o	2-C	A	25,264	1,528	6%	59	1%	4%
	o	o	+	o	o	2-C	A	14,656	1,019	7%	73	1%	7%
Oregon: Circuit Court .....	+	o	o	o	o	5-B	A	19,549	1,980	10%	1,204	6%	61%
Pennsylvania: Court of Common Pleas .....	+	+	+	+	+	2-A/D	C	69,736 <sup>i</sup>	8,803 <sup>i</sup>	13% <sup>i</sup>	3,051 <sup>i</sup>	4% <sup>i</sup>	35% <sup>i</sup>
District Justice Court .....	o	+	o	o	o	2-C	C	104,910 <sup>j</sup>	16,878 <sup>j</sup>	16% <sup>j</sup>	--		
Puerto Rico: Superior Court .....	+	o	o	o	o	1-C	C	12,228	2,922	24%	370	3%	13%
	o	+	o	+	o	1-C	C	9,602	2,081	22%	38	1%	2%
Texas: District Court and Criminal District Court .....	+	o	o	o	o	2-A	A	71,667			3,026	4%	
	o	+	o	o	o	2-A	A	7,020			18	1%	
	o	o	+	o	o	2-A	A	4,044			37	1%	
County Court at Law and Constitutional County Court ....	o	+	o	+	o	5-B	C	194,022	2,295	1%	1,252	1%	55%
	o	o	+	o	o	5-B	C	63,662	723	1%	540	1%	75%
Utah: District Court .....	+	+	o	+	o	9-A	A	2,842	407	14%	278	10%	68%
	o	o	o	+	o	9-A	A	185 <sup>i</sup>	185 <sup>i</sup>	100% <sup>i</sup>	--		
Vermont: Superior Court .....	+	o	o	o	o	2-A	C	22	5	23%	1	5%	20%
District Court .....	+	+	+	o	o	1-E	C	19,113 <sup>j</sup>	323 <sup>j</sup>	2% <sup>j</sup>	249 <sup>j</sup>	2% <sup>j</sup>	77% <sup>j</sup>
Virginia: Circuit Court .....	+	o	o	+	o	1-A	A	38,809	12,562	32%	3,091	8%	25%
	o	+	o	+	o	1-A	A	22,479 <sup>i</sup>	7,180 <sup>i</sup>	32% <sup>i</sup>	747 <sup>i</sup>	3% <sup>i</sup>	10% <sup>i</sup>
	o	o	o	o	+	1-A	A	343 <sup>j</sup>	76 <sup>j</sup>	22% <sup>j</sup>	--		
Washington: Superior Court .....	+	o	o	+	o	7-A	A	15,502	2,315	15%	1,475	10%	64%
District Court .....	o	+	o	o	o	3-C	A	61,940	17,498	23%	371	1%	2%
	o	o	+	o	o	3-C	A	18,313	8,651	47%	626	3%	7%
Wisconsin: Circuit Court .....	+	o	o	o	o	2-E	C	13,199	723	5%	626	5%	87%
	o	+	+	o	o	2-E	C	32,800 <sup>i</sup>	550 <sup>i</sup>	2% <sup>i</sup>	290 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	53% <sup>i</sup>
Wyoming: District Court .....	+	o	o	+	o	9-A	A	1,816	273	15%	78	4%	29%

Note: All available data that are 90% or more complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. States omitted from this table did not specifically report criminal trial data in sufficient detail. State courts with the possibility of jury trials can be identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this Report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

-- = Not applicable.

+ = Data are given for these case types.

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

Arizona--Data do not include some cases which could not be separated from the unclassified category.

Georgia--Data do not include cases from DeKalb County.

Hawaii--Some criminal data are included in the unclassified civil category.

Iowa--Some misdemeanors are included in the traffic data.

Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas-- Criminal appeals on the record are not included in these figures.

Utah-- Appeals that are reported separately are "on the record." De novo appeals are included with other case types.

Virginia--Data do not include some appeals from the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court reported with felony cases.

Wisconsin--Data do not include some DWI/DUI cases included in the traffic data.

<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:

California-- Misdemeanors include some ordinance violation cases.

Connecticut--Data include some ordinance violation cases.

Delaware--Total dispositions include some postconviction remedy proceedings.

Georgia--Data include county ordinance violation cases.

Idaho-- Misdemeanor cases include ordinance violation cases.

Criminal appeals include some sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.

North Dakota--Data include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.

Pennsylvania--District Justice Court--Data include some ordinance violation cases.

Vermont--District Court--Data include some ordinance violation cases. Miscellaneous criminal cases include some postconviction remedy proceedings.

Trial definitions:

A = A jury trial is counted at jury selection, empaneling or swearing in.

B = A jury trial is counted at introduction of evidence or swearing of first witness.

C = A jury trial is counted at verdict or decision.

Criminal case unit of count codes:

Contents of case (number of defendants/number of charges)

- Point at which case is counted

Contents of case:

1. Single defendant/single charge
2. Single defendant/single incident
3. Single defendant/single charge (maximum number of charges)
4. Single defendant/one or more incidents
5. Single defendant/varies with prosecutor
6. One or more defendants/single charge
7. One or more defendants/single incident
8. One or more defendants/single incident (maximum number of charges)
9. One or more defendants/one or more incidents
10. One or more defendants/varies with prosecutor
11. Varies with prosecutor/varies with prosecutor

Point at which case is counted:

- A. At the filing of the information or indictment
- B. At the filing of the information or complaint
- C. At the filing of the complaint (warrant or accusation)
- D. At the assigning of a docket number
- E. At the arraignment (first appearance)

**TABLE 34: Traffic/other violation filed and disposed in general jurisdiction, limited jurisdiction, and all trial courts, 1981.**

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Variations in court organization, subject matter jurisdiction, and case classification:

This table organizes the gross totals of Table 15 into those traffic/other violation cases heard by the different court levels. Because of the variations in court organization, subject matter jurisdiction, and case classification, comparisons of general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts from state to state are seldom appropriate.

Lack of complete data (less than 90% complete from an individual court) is responsible for the large number of blanks in the "All trial courts" columns on this table, as well as for states missing from the table. In order for a state to be included in this table, it had to have complete filing or disposition data that are at least 90% complete from all its trial courts.

Courts that do not break their caseload down into specific case types do generally separate caseload into civil, criminal, and juvenile cases. (Traffic may be reported separately or it may be lumped into criminal caseload.)

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in counting cases do have an impact on total caseloads. If states are not counting cases at the same beginning and ending point, total caseload is not comparable.

Appropriate analyses:

Disposed as a percent of filed. This measure represents the percent of the number of filed cases that the court was able to dispose. The percent is computed by dividing the number of cases disposed by the number filed and then multiplying by one hundred. A percent over one hundred indicates that the court disposed more cases than were filed, thus reducing pending caseload. A percent significantly less than one hundred indicates that the court is not keeping up with the volume of cases being filed.

Limitations on use:

Although data have been broken down into general and limited jurisdiction courts, this has been done to provide a flavor for the different workloads of the different levels of trial courts. Interstate comparisons should be restricted to all trial courts' figures.

Also, comparisons should not be made between states that handle traffic, and in particular, parking cases differently. Courts that include parking cases in their reported data should not be compared to those that do not. In addition, states that include contested parking only data should not be compared with states that count all parking cases. The overwhelming number of parking cases are uncontested.



**TABLE 34:**

**Traffic/other violation filed and disposed in general jurisdiction, limited jurisdiction, and all trial courts, 1981.**  
*Disposed as a percent of filed.*

State	Park- ing	General jurisdiction courts			Limited jurisdiction courts			All trial courts		
		Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent filed	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent filed	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent filed
California .....	P	NH	NH	NH	15,633,232 <sup>J</sup>	13,462,949 <sup>J</sup>	86% <sup>J</sup>	15,633,232 <sup>J</sup>	13,462,949 <sup>J</sup>	86% <sup>J</sup>
Delaware .....	P									
District of Columbia ..		14,406 <sup>J</sup>	14,326 <sup>J</sup>	99% <sup>J</sup>	--	--	--	14,406 <sup>J</sup>	14,326 <sup>J</sup>	99% <sup>J</sup>
Florida .....		NH	NH	NH	2,383,750 <sup>J</sup>	2,171,094 <sup>J</sup>	91% <sup>J</sup>	2,383,750 <sup>J</sup>	2,171,094 <sup>J</sup>	91% <sup>J</sup>
Guam .....		37,214	22,913	62%	--	--	--	37,214	22,913	62%
Hawaii .....	P	111 <sup>1</sup>	107 <sup>1</sup>	96% <sup>1</sup>	800,222 <sup>J</sup>	817,168 <sup>J</sup>	102% <sup>J</sup>	800,333 <sup>J</sup>	817,275 <sup>J</sup>	102% <sup>J</sup>
Iowa .....	CP		742,526 <sup>1</sup>		--	--	--		742,526 <sup>1</sup>	
Maine .....	P				145,617 <sup>J</sup>	144,416 <sup>J</sup>	99% <sup>J</sup>	145,617 <sup>J</sup>	144,416 <sup>J</sup>	99% <sup>J</sup>
New Hampshire .....	CP				214,033 <sup>J</sup>			214,033 <sup>J</sup>		
South Carolina .....	P	NH	NH	NH	653,802 <sup>1</sup>			653,802 <sup>1</sup>		
South Dakota .....	CP	127,044 <sup>J</sup>	126,458 <sup>J</sup>	100% <sup>J</sup>	--	--	--	127,044 <sup>J</sup>	126,458 <sup>J</sup>	100% <sup>J</sup>
Washington .....	P	NH	NH	NH	1,682,357 <sup>J</sup>	1,377,112 <sup>J</sup>	82% <sup>J</sup>	1,682,357 <sup>J</sup>	1,377,112 <sup>J</sup>	82% <sup>J</sup>

Note: Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or the calculations are inappropriate. States omitted from this table did not specifically report total state data that are more than 90% complete. State courts with this jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this Report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this reporting period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

NH = This case type is not handled in this court.  
 -- = Not applicable.

P = Reported data include contested and uncontested parking cases.  
 CP = Reported data include contested, but not uncontested parking cases.

<sup>1</sup>Data are incomplete:  
 California--Data do not include all ordinance violation cases.

Hawaii--Data do not include some reopened cases.  
 Maine--Total state data do not include a small number of moving traffic and ordinance violation cases handled in the Superior Court.  
 South Carolina--Data do not include juvenile traffic cases from the Family Court.

<sup>J</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:  
 California--Data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 District of Columbia--Data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Florida--Data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 Hawaii--Data include some misdemeanor cases.  
 Iowa--Data include some misdemeanor cases.  
 Maine--Data include some misdemeanor and DWI/DUI cases.  
 New Hampshire--Data include DWI/DUI cases.  
 South Dakota--Data include some misdemeanor and criminal appeals cases.  
 Washington--Data include some misdemeanor cases.

TABLE 35: Ordinance violation caseload for trial courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization and subject matter jurisdiction:

Caseload in this table is from both general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts. The same case types may be handled in different courts from state to state. Only state totals can be compared. To facilitate comparisons, the states in these tables have been grouped into three categories: those states where a court has exclusive jurisdiction over a case type and where it reported complete data; those states where more than one court handles a case type and each court submitted complete data; and those states where data from any one of the courts with that casetype jurisdiction are incomplete. The court system charts in Part II should be consulted for a brief summary of the jurisdiction of each court.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in case classification and definitions:

This is the first year that ordinance violations have been extracted from the criminal caseload. It is now counted with traffic/other violation cases. The case categories and the data classified in the case categories, however, vary from state to state.

Because such problems exist for these and all other case categories, the case types used in this Report are those chosen for inclusion in the State Court Model Annual Report and State Court Model Statistical Dictionary.

Even with use of the model case types, however, caseloads are not comparable if state statutes vary as to the types of criminal cases classified as local ordinance violation or state misdemeanors. Certain fish and game offenses, for example, may be ordinance violations in one state but misdemeanors in another.

Only states reporting data that could be displayed in the specific case types are included in the tables, and then only if the data are at least 90% complete. Many courts do not break data down beyond the broad civil, criminal, traffic, and juvenile categories.

Appropriate analysis:

All percentage calculations that were less than 1% but greater than 0% have been rounded up to 1%. All percentage calculations that were less than 0% but greater than -1% have been rounded down to -1%.

Disposed cases as percent of filed. This measure represents the percent of the number of filed cases of which the court was able to dispose. The percent is computed by dividing the number of cases disposed of by the number filed and then multiplying by one hundred. A percent over one hundred indicates that the court disposed of more cases than were filed, thus reducing pending caseload. A percent significantly less than one hundred indicates that the court is not keeping up with the volume of cases being filed. This measure was not computed if the filing and disposition data were not comparable.

Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population. The unit of state population used on all court caseload charts is 100,000. This measure compensates for variations in state population and gives a more realistic basis for comparison of caseloads among states of various sizes. If the number of filings was not available but the number of dispositions was available, the number of cases disposed per unit of population was entered in this column in place of the number of cases filed per population unit, and the use of this alternative quantity was indicated by enclosing it in parentheses. Population figures used in the criminal tables represent the 18-year-old-plus state population. If all other factors (court jurisdiction, case definition, etc.) are similar, the filed-per-unit-of-population statistic will permit direct comparisons among states of the number of filed cases.

Limitations on use:

In these criminal case type tables, only STATE TOTALS can be compared in those states where more than one court has jurisdiction over the case type. Comparisons can be made between the data reported for a state with an individual court that has exclusive jurisdiction over the type of case, and the STATE TOTALS for states where more than one court has jurisdiction. Comparisons should be avoided for states not reporting data for one or more courts that have jurisdiction over the case type.

It should also be noted that any change(s) in the caseload of a court may not indicate a change in the actual "offense-rate" within a state, but may merely reflect changes in the criminal code, law enforcement policies and/or citizen reporting rates--among other things. These data should only be used for court management measures.

TABLE 35:

## Ordinance violation caseload for trial courts, 1981.

Courts reporting ordinance violation caseload. Disposed as a percent of filed. Filed per 100,000 population.

State and court title	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as percent of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
<b>COMPLETE STATE DATA</b>						
<b>Exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>						
District of Columbia--Superior Court .....	261	4,003	3,898	366	97%	814
Florida--County Court .....		95,862	78,316		82%	1,234
Hawaii--District Court .....	4,768 <sup>J</sup>	27,572 <sup>J</sup>	24,401 <sup>J</sup>	7,939 <sup>J</sup>	88% <sup>J</sup>	3,922 <sup>J</sup>
Iowa--District Court .....	39,966 <sup>J</sup>	65,229 <sup>J</sup>	66,327 <sup>J</sup>	38,868 <sup>J</sup>	102% <sup>J</sup>	3,117 <sup>J</sup>
Washington--Municipal Court .....		59,534 <sup>J</sup>	48,298 <sup>J</sup>		81% <sup>J</sup>	1,937 <sup>J</sup>
<b>Not exclusive court jurisdiction:</b>						
New Hampshire--STATE TOTAL .....		31,829 <sup>J</sup>				4,681 <sup>J</sup>
District Court .....		31,034 <sup>J</sup>				4,564 <sup>J</sup>
Municipal Court .....		795 <sup>J</sup>				117 <sup>J</sup>
<b>INCOMPLETE STATE DATA</b>						
California--STATE TOTAL .....		72,775 <sup>i</sup>	55,887 <sup>i</sup>		77% <sup>i</sup>	409 <sup>i</sup>
Municipal Court .....		67,724 <sup>i</sup>	51,926 <sup>i</sup>		77% <sup>i</sup>	381 <sup>i</sup>
Justice Court .....		5,051 <sup>i</sup>	3,961 <sup>i</sup>		78% <sup>i</sup>	28 <sup>i</sup>
Louisiana--City Court, Parish Court, and Municipal Court of New Orleans .....		112,099	85,419		76%	3,781
Mayor's Court .....						
Justice of the Peace Court .....						
Pennsylvania--Philadelphia Municipal Court .....			233,037 <sup>i</sup>			(1,963) <sup>i</sup>
District Justice Court .....						9 <sup>i</sup>
Pittsburgh City Magistrates .....		814 <sup>i</sup>				
South Carolina--Municipal Court .....		56,334 <sup>J</sup>				2,521 <sup>J</sup>
Magistrate Court .....						
Utah--Circuit Court .....		23,028 <sup>J</sup>				2,414 <sup>J</sup>
Justice of the Peace Courts .....						
Wisconsin--Circuit Court .....		57,252	59,794		104%	1,680
Municipal Court .....						

Note: All available data that are at least 90% complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. States omitted from this table did not specifically report ordinance violations. State courts with this jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this Report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

<sup>J</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:

Hawaii--Data include some misdemeanor cases.  
Iowa--Data include some miscellaneous traffic cases.  
New Hampshire--Data include some first offense DWI/DUI cases.  
South Carolina--Data include parking meter violations.  
Utah--Data include some miscellaneous criminal cases.  
Washington--Data include misdemeanor cases.

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

California--Data do not include some ordinance violations included with misdemeanor cases.  
Pennsylvania--Some ordinance violations are included with triable misdemeanors.

TABLE 36: Traffic/other violation disposition types for trial courts, 1981.

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Variations in court organization and subject matter jurisdiction:

These tables display data for the general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts that report manner-of-disposition data.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in definitions:

Only a few states report sufficiently complete data to make between-state comparisons of the proportion of total caseload disposed by each manner of disposition.

Appropriate analyses:

Number and percent of total dispositions for each manner of disposition. Dividing the number of cases for each manner of disposition by the

total number of similar cases results in the proportions of cases disposed by each manner of disposition. These figures can be compared between courts with similar subject matter jurisdiction.

Limitations on use:

The distribution of the proportions of cases is affected by the order with which procedures are carried out by the court and the prosecutor. The proportion of dismissals will be lower in courts that screen cases before filing them than in courts that screen cases after they are filed.

In addition, care should be taken to ensure that a dismissal in one state means the same as a dismissal in another state. For example, some states may distinguish between dismissals by prosecutors and by judges, while others may treat them as the same.

**TABLE 36: Traffic/other violation disposition types for trial courts, 1981.**

Courts reporting traffic/other violation disposition type data. Pleas, violations bureau, bail or bond forfeitures, total convictions, trial convictions, acquitted, nolle prosequi, and dismissed. Each disposition type as a percent of traffic/other violation dispositions.

State and court title	Park- ing	Total traffic dispositions	Total trials	Plea		Violations Bureau*		Bail or bond forfeiture	
				Number	As percent of dis- posed	Number	As percent of dis- posed	Number	As percent of dis- posed
California--STATE TOTAL.....	P	13,462,951 <sup>ij</sup>	354,319 <sup>ij</sup>	1,187,229 <sup>ij</sup>	9% <sup>ij</sup>			9,129,704 <sup>ij</sup>	68% <sup>ij</sup>
Justice Court.....	P	442,014 <sup>i</sup>	14,695 <sup>i</sup>	66,017 <sup>i</sup>	15% <sup>i</sup>			294,077 <sup>i</sup>	66% <sup>i</sup>
Municipal Court.....	P	13,020,937 <sup>ij</sup>	339,624 <sup>ij</sup>	1,121,212 <sup>ij</sup>	9% <sup>ij</sup>			8,835,627 <sup>ij</sup>	68% <sup>ij</sup>
District of Columbia--Superior Court.....		14,326 <sup>j</sup>	234 <sup>j</sup>	3,479 <sup>j</sup>	24% <sup>j</sup>			1,717 <sup>j</sup>	12% <sup>j</sup>
Florida--County Court.....		2,171,094	26,377	244,162	11% <sup>j</sup>			12,595 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>
Georgia--STATE TOTAL.....		165,662 <sup>ij</sup>	1,062 <sup>ij</sup>	53,830 <sup>ij</sup>	32% <sup>ij</sup>			95,749 <sup>ij</sup>	58% <sup>ij</sup>
Probate Court.....		149,175 <sup>j</sup>	818 <sup>j</sup>	47,598 <sup>j</sup>	32% <sup>j</sup>			90,452 <sup>j</sup>	61% <sup>j</sup>
Superior Court.....		16,487 <sup>ij</sup>	244 <sup>ij</sup>	6,232 <sup>ij</sup>	38% <sup>ij</sup>			5,297 <sup>ij</sup>	32% <sup>ij</sup>
Hawaii--STATE TOTAL.....	P	817,275 <sup>ij</sup>	2 <sup>i</sup>	6 <sup>i</sup>	6% <sup>i</sup>			471,610 <sup>j</sup>	58% <sup>j</sup>
Circuit Court.....		107 <sup>i</sup>	2 <sup>i</sup>	6 <sup>i</sup>	6% <sup>i</sup>				
District Court.....	P	817,168 <sup>j</sup>						471,610 <sup>j</sup>	58% <sup>j</sup>
Kansas--District Court.....		279,976 <sup>ij</sup>	5,634 <sup>ij</sup>	220,561 <sup>ij</sup>	79% <sup>ij</sup>			37,876 <sup>ij</sup>	14% <sup>ij</sup>
New Jersey--STATE TOTAL.....		3,303,384 <sup>ij</sup>	0	381,189 <sup>ij</sup>	12% <sup>ij</sup>	2,799,955 <sup>ij</sup>	85% <sup>ij</sup>		
County District Court.....	CP	41,930 <sup>ij</sup>	0	3,487 <sup>ij</sup>	8% <sup>ij</sup>	37,540 <sup>ij</sup>	90% <sup>ij</sup>		
Municipal Court.....	P	3,261,454 <sup>ij</sup>	0	377,702 <sup>ij</sup>	12% <sup>ij</sup>	2,762,415 <sup>ij</sup>	85% <sup>ij</sup>		
North Dakota--County Court with Increased Jurisdiction.....		51,274		50,891 <sup>j</sup>	99% <sup>j</sup>				
Ohio--STATE TOTAL.....		1,518,441 <sup>i</sup>	16,320 <sup>i</sup>	435,298 <sup>i</sup>	29% <sup>i</sup>	804,851 <sup>i</sup>	53% <sup>i</sup>		
County Court.....		160,809 <sup>i</sup>	1,550 <sup>i</sup>	50,672 <sup>i</sup>	32% <sup>i</sup>	89,729 <sup>i</sup>	56% <sup>i</sup>		
Municipal Court.....	P	1,357,632 <sup>i</sup>	14,770 <sup>i</sup>	384,626 <sup>i</sup>	28% <sup>i</sup>	715,122 <sup>i</sup>	53% <sup>i</sup>		
Pennsylvania--District Justice Court.....	P	1,326,815 <sup>i</sup>	126,934 <sup>i</sup>	1,031,360 <sup>i</sup>	78% <sup>i</sup>				
Puerto Rico--District Court.....		51,439 <sup>j</sup>	4,003 <sup>j</sup>	35,322 <sup>j</sup>	68% <sup>j</sup>				
South Dakota--Circuit Court.....	CP	126,458 <sup>j</sup>	2,276 <sup>j</sup>	115,608 <sup>j</sup>	91% <sup>j</sup>				
Texas--County Court at Law and Constitutional County Court ....	P	50,356 <sup>j</sup>	266 <sup>j</sup>	8,506 <sup>j</sup>	17% <sup>j</sup>				
Vermont--District Court.....	CP	86,040 <sup>i</sup>	548 <sup>i</sup>	69,363 <sup>i</sup>	81% <sup>i</sup>	13,376 <sup>i*</sup>	16% <sup>i</sup>	13,376 <sup>i</sup>	16%

Note: All available data are entered in the table and all appropriate calculations are included. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or the calculations are inappropriate.

P = Reported data include contested and uncontested parking cases.

CP = Reported data include contested, but not uncontested parking cases.

\*Violations Bureau dispositions: These cases were disposed by a Violations Bureau, usually with just the payment of a fine. In the Texas Justice of the Peace Court and Municipal Court these are called payment of fine dispositions. The figures for the Vermont District Court are cases referred to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

<sup>D</sup>Particular court or reporting system information:

The numbers of dispositions reported for Georgia courts in this table are different from those reported in the rest of this report. Georgia defines a case differently when counting types of dispositions than it does when counting filings or total dispositions. The total disposition figures used here are the sums of the number of cases given under each type of disposition.

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

California--Justice Court--Figure does not include all ordinance violations or all speeding cases.

--Municipal Court--Some ordinance violations are counted with misdemeanors.

Georgia--Superior Court--Figure does not include ordinance violations or juvenile moving traffic from Ware and Whitfield counties.

Hawaii--Circuit Court--Figure does not include reopened prior cases.

Kansas--District Court--Figure does not include juvenile traffic cases.

New Jersey--County District Court--Figure does not include ordinance violations.

--Municipal Court--Figure does not include ordinance violations.

Ohio--County Court--Figure does not include ordinance violations.

--Municipal Court--Figure does not include ordinance violations.

Pennsylvania--District Justice Court--Figure does not include some ordinance violations that are included in the misdemeanor category.

Vermont--District Court--Figure does not include ordinance violations.

Trial conviction			Total conviction		Acquittal		Nolle prosequi		Dismissal	
Number	As		Number	As percent of disposed	Number	As percent of disposed	Number	As percent of disposed	Number	As percent of disposed
	percent of disposed	percent of trials								
267,117 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	2% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	75% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	1,454,346 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	11% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	47,328 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	1%			2,778,500 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	21% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>
6,120 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	42% <sup>i</sup>	72,137 <sup>i</sup>	16% <sup>i</sup>	3,063 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>			64,662 <sup>i</sup>	15% <sup>i</sup>
260,997 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	2% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	77% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	1,382,209 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	11% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	44,265 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	17% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>			2,713,838 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	21% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>
							3,087 <sup>j</sup>	22% <sup>j</sup>	2,679 <sup>j</sup>	19% <sup>j</sup>
									16,753	1%
									11,259 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	7% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>
									9,851 <sup>j</sup>	7% <sup>j</sup>
									1,408 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	9% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>
			162,832 <sup>j</sup>	20% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>			11,510 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	1%	80,520 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	10% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>
							5 <sup>i</sup>	5% <sup>i</sup>	6 <sup>i</sup>	6% <sup>i</sup>
			162,832 <sup>j</sup>	20% <sup>j</sup>			11,505 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	80,514 <sup>j</sup>	10% <sup>j</sup>
(j)			381,189 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	12% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	(j)				15,665 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	6% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>
(j)			3,487 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	8% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	(j)				120,870 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	4% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>
(j)			377,702 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	12% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	(j)				899 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	2% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>
(j)			50,891	99% <sup>j</sup>	372	1%			119,971 <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>	4% <sup>i</sup> <sub>j</sub>
									11	1%
							3,789 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	64,774 <sup>i</sup>	4% <sup>i</sup>
							825 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	2,921 <sup>i</sup>	2% <sup>i</sup>
62,632 <sup>i</sup>	5% <sup>i</sup>	49% <sup>i</sup>	1,093,992 <sup>i</sup>	82% <sup>i</sup>	64,302 <sup>i</sup>	5% <sup>i</sup>	2,964 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	61,853 <sup>i</sup>	5% <sup>i</sup>
1,760 <sup>j</sup>	3% <sup>j</sup>	44% <sup>j</sup>	37,082 <sup>j</sup>	72% <sup>j</sup>	2,243 <sup>j</sup>	4% <sup>j</sup>	66,809 <sup>i</sup>	5% <sup>i</sup>	11,750 <sup>j</sup>	23% <sup>j</sup>
									8,574 <sup>j</sup>	7% <sup>j</sup>
147 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	55 <sup>j</sup>	8,753 <sup>j</sup>	17% <sup>j</sup>	119 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>			25,217 <sup>j</sup>	50% <sup>j</sup>
							2,039 <sup>i</sup>	2% <sup>i</sup>	714 <sup>i</sup>	8% <sup>i</sup>

<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:  
California--Municipal Court--Figure includes **DWI/DUI** cases.  
District of Columbia--Superior Court--Figure includes **DWI/DUI** cases.  
Florida--County Court--Figure includes **DWI/DUI** cases.  
Georgia--Superior Court and STATE TOTAL--Figure includes some **DWI/DUI** cases.  
--Probate Court and STATE TOTAL--Figure includes **DWI/DUI** cases.  
Hawaii--District Court-- **Ordinance violations** and total traffic figures include some misdemeanors.  
Kansas--District Court--Figure includes **DWI/DUI** cases.  
New Jersey--County District Court--Figure includes **DWI/DUI** cases; dismissal figure includes acquittals, plea figure includes trial convictions.  
--Municipal Court--Figure includes **DWI/DUI** cases; dismissal figure includes acquittals, plea figure includes trial convictions.  
North Dakota--County Court With Increased Jurisdiction--Plea figure includes convictions.  
Puerto Rico--District Court--Figure includes **DWI/DUI** cases.  
South Dakota--Circuit Court--Approximately 20% of the cases represented in this number are **criminal misdemeanors**.  
Texas--County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court, and Probate Court - Figure includes traffic appeals.

TABLE 37: Traffic/other violation jury and non-jury trial dispositions, 1981.

Variations in court organization and subject matter jurisdiction:

In this table data include all available traffic data. Both general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts are included.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in case classifications and definitions:

Both the case categories and the data classified in each case category vary from state to state.

Variations in counting both cases and trials:

The definitions used by each court to count trials are indicated in this table. Comparisons can be made between courts that count trials in the same way.

Appropriate analyses:

All percentage calculations that were less than 1% but greater than 0% have been rounded up to 1%. All percentage calculations that were less than 0% but greater than -1% have been rounded down to -1%.

Trials as a percent of dispositions. Dividing the number of trials conducted by the total number of cases disposed of for the

appropriate case type results in the trial rate for that case type for the court.

Jury trials as a percent of dispositions. Dividing the number of jury trials conducted by the total number of cases disposed of for the appropriate case type results in the jury trial rate for that case type for the court.

Jury trials as a percent of trials. Dividing the number of jury trials by the total number of trials conducted for that case type results in the proportion of trials that are trials by jury for that case type for the court.

Limitations on use:

Comparisons of these tables must be restricted to the court level, and must be controlled for case type, and trial definitions. State totals have not been computed in order to avoid any temptation to compare "apples and oranges."

Care should also be taken to compare only those courts that share similar rules regarding the availability of jury trials. For example, some states make it more difficult for a criminal defendant to waive a jury trial than other states. Similarly, in some states both parties to civil litigation must agree to a jury trial, while in other states one of the parties can demand a jury trial.

TABLE 37:

## Traffic/other violation jury and non-jury trial dispositions, 1981.

State and court. Jury trial definition. Number of dispositions and trials. Trials as a percent of dispositions.

Numbers of jury trials, jury trials as a percent of dispositions and trials.

State and court title	Park- ing	Jury trial defini- tion	Number of disposi- tions	Number of trials	Trials as a percent of dispo- sitions	Number of jury trials	Jury trials as a percent of dispo- sitions	Jury trials as a per- cent of trials
<b>California:</b>								
Justice Court .....	P	A	442,014	14,695	3%	308	1%	2%
Municipal Court .....	P	A	13,020,937 <sup>j</sup>	339,624 <sup>j</sup>	3%	3,148	1%	1%
<b>Colorado:</b>								
County Court .....		A	177,503 <sup>j</sup>	6,606 <sup>j</sup>	4% <sup>j</sup>	605 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	9% <sup>j</sup>
<b>District of Columbia:</b>								
Superior Court .....		A	14,326 <sup>j</sup>	234 <sup>j</sup>	2% <sup>j</sup>	62 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	26% <sup>j</sup>
<b>Florida:</b>								
County Court .....		A	2,171,094 <sup>j</sup>	26,377 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	1,307 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	5% <sup>j</sup>
<b>Georgia:</b>								
Superior Court .....		C	16,487 <sup>j</sup>	244 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	132 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	54% <sup>j</sup>
Probate Court .....		C	194,175 <sup>j</sup>	818 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	--	--	--
<b>Hawaii:</b>								
Circuit Court .....		A	107 <sup>i</sup>	2 <sup>i</sup>	2% <sup>i</sup>	1 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	50% <sup>i</sup>
<b>Indiana:</b>								
Superior Court and Circuit Court .....		C	97,878	3,154	3%	--	--	--
Municipal Court of Marion County .....	P	C	90,839 <sup>i</sup>	4,602 <sup>i</sup>	5% <sup>i</sup>	--	--	--
<b>Iowa:</b>								
District Court .....	CP	A	742,526 <sup>j</sup>	18,577 <sup>j</sup>	3% <sup>j</sup>	290 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	2% <sup>j</sup>
<b>Kansas:</b>								
District Court .....		A	279,976	5,634 <sup>i</sup>	2% <sup>i</sup>	59 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>
<b>Missouri:</b>								
Circuit Court .....	P	B	365,391 <sup>i</sup>	13,262 <sup>i</sup>	4% <sup>i</sup>	--	--	--
<b>New Jersey:</b>								
County District Court .....	CP	A	41,930 <sup>j</sup>	0	9% <sup>j</sup>	--	--	--
Municipal Court .....	P	A	3,261,454 <sup>j</sup>	0	0% <sup>j</sup>	--	--	--
<b>New York:</b>								
District Court and City Court.		C	331,418 <sup>i</sup>	5,349 <sup>i</sup>	2% <sup>i</sup>			
<b>Ohio:</b>								
County Court .....		A	160,809 <sup>i</sup>	1,550 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	17 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>
Municipal Court .....	P	A	1,357,632 <sup>i</sup>	14,770 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	165 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>
<b>Pennsylvania:</b>								
District Justice Court .....	P	N/A	1,326,815 <sup>i</sup>	126,934 <sup>i</sup>	10% <sup>i</sup>	--	--	--
<b>Puerto Rico:</b>								
District Court .....		N/A	51,439 <sup>j</sup>	4,003 <sup>j</sup>	8% <sup>j</sup>	--	--	--
<b>South Dakota:</b>								
Circuit Court .....	CP	A	126,458 <sup>j</sup>	2,276 <sup>j</sup>	2% <sup>j</sup>	0 <sup>j</sup>	--	--
<b>Texas:</b>								
Texas County Court at Law, and Constitutional County Court.	P	C	50,356 <sup>j</sup>	266 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	95 <sup>j</sup>	1% <sup>j</sup>	36% <sup>j</sup>
<b>Vermont:</b>								
District Court .....	CP	C	86,040 <sup>i</sup>	548 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	28 <sup>i</sup>	1% <sup>i</sup>	5% <sup>i</sup>



Note: All available data are entered in the table and all appropriate calculations are included. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable or calculations are inappropriate, or that the data are less than 90% complete.

P = Reported data include contested and uncontested parking cases.

CP = Reported data include contested, but not uncontested parking cases.

-- = Not applicable.

Trial definitions:

A = A trial is counted at jury selection, empaneling or swearing in.

B = A jury trial is counted at the introduction of evidence or swearing of first witness.

C = A jury trial is counted at verdict or decision.

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

Alaska--District Court--Data do not include ordinance violations.

Georgia--Superior Court--Figure does not include ordinance violations, or juvenile moving traffic from Ware and Whitfield counties.

Hawaii--Circuit Court--Figure does not include reopened prior cases.

Indiana--Municipal Court of Marion County--Figure does not include ordinance violations.

Kansas--District Court--Figure does not include juvenile traffic cases.

Missouri--Circuit Court--Figure does not include ordinance violations.

New Jersey--County District Court--Figure does not include ordinance violations.

Municipal Court--Figure does not include ordinance violations.

New York--District Court and City Court--Figure does not include ordinance violations.

Ohio--County Court--Figure does not include ordinance violations.

Municipal Court--Figure does not include ordinance violations.

Pennsylvania--District Justice Court--Some ordinance violations are counted with misdemeanors.

Vermont--District Court--Figure does not include ordinance violations.

<sup>J</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:

California Municipal Court--Figure includes some DWI/DUI cases.

Colorado--County Court--Figure includes DWI/DUI cases.

Florida--County Court--Figure includes DWI/DUI cases.

Georgia--Superior Court--Figure includes DWI/DUI cases.

Probate Court--Figure includes some DWI/DUI cases.

Iowa--District Court--Figure includes some misdemeanors.

New Jersey--County District Court--Figure includes DWI/DUI cases.

Municipal Court--Figure includes DWI/DUI cases.

Puerto Rico--District Court--Figure includes DWI/DUI cases.

South Dakota--Circuit Court--Approximately 20% of the cases included are criminal misdemeanors, including disorderly conduct, prostitution, and gambling cases. The figure also includes some criminal appeals.

Texas--County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court--Figure includes traffic appeals.

Wisconsin--Circuit Court--Figure includes some DWI/DUI cases.

TABLE 38: Juvenile filed and disposed for general jurisdiction, limited jurisdiction, and all trial courts, 1981.

Variations in court organization, subject matter jurisdiction, and case classification:

This table organizes the gross totals of Table 16 into those juvenile cases heard by the different court levels. Because of the variations in court organization, subject matter jurisdiction, and case classification, comparisons of general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts from state to state are seldom appropriate.

Lack of complete data (less than 90% complete from an individual court) is responsible for the large number of blanks in the "All trial courts" columns on this table, as well as for states missing from the table. In order for a state to be included in this table, it had to have complete filing or disposition data from all its trial courts.

Courts that do not break their caseload down into specific case types do generally separate caseload into civil, criminal, and juvenile cases. (Traffic may be reported separately or it may be lumped into criminal caseload.)

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in counting cases do have an impact on total caseloads. If states are not counting cases at the same beginning and ending point,

total caseload is not comparable. For the first time, the states in this table are organized by whether cases are counted at the filing of the petition, or at intake or referral.

Appropriate analyses:

Disposed as a percent of filed. This measure represents the percent of the number of filed cases that the court was able to dispose. The percent is computed by dividing the number of cases disposed by the number filed and then multiplying by one hundred. A percent over one hundred indicates that the court disposed more cases than were filed, thus reducing pending caseload. A percent significantly less than one hundred indicates that the court is not keeping up with the volume of cases being filed.

Limitations on use:

Comparisons can be made between courts that count cases in the same way. The method of counting juvenile cases has the greatest influence over data reported.

Although data have been broken down into general and limited jurisdiction courts, this has been done to provide a flavor for the different workloads of the different levels of trial courts. Interstate comparisons should be restricted to all trial courts' figures.

**TABLE 38:**  
**Juvenile filed and disposed for general jurisdiction, limited jurisdiction, and all trial courts, 1981.**  
*Disposed as a percent of filed.*

State	General jurisdiction courts			Limited jurisdiction courts			All trial courts		
	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent filed	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent filed	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent filed
<b>Juvenile cases are counted at the filing of the petition in the following states:</b>									
Alabama	21,386	24,842	116%	25,105	24,288	97%	46,491	49,130	106%
Alaska	1,314	1,052	80%	NH	NH	NH	1,314	1,052	80%
California	70,823	63,698	90%	NH	NH	NH	70,823	63,698	90%
Colorado	12,513	10,598	85%	NH	NH	NH	12,513	10,598	85%
Florida	63,257	64,688	102%	NH	NH	NH	63,257	64,688	102%
Guam	803	209	26%	--	--	--	803	209	26%
Idaho	7,488	9,232	123%	--	--	--	7,488	9,232	123%
Illinois	33,210	30,434	92%	--	--	--	33,210	30,434	92%
Indiana	25,138	24,498	97%	1,212	1,301	107%	26,350	25,799	98%
Iowa	5,496			--	--	--	5,496		
Kansas	12,518 <sup>j</sup>	10,198 <sup>j</sup>	81% <sup>j</sup>	NH	NH	NH	12,518 <sup>j</sup>	10,198 <sup>j</sup>	81% <sup>j</sup>
Kentucky	NH	NH	NH	37,931 <sup>j</sup>	31,834 <sup>j</sup>	84% <sup>j</sup>	37,931 <sup>j</sup>	31,834 <sup>j</sup>	84% <sup>j</sup>
Maine	NH	NH	NH	3,864	3,795	98%	3,864	3,795	98%
Maryland	22,798	20,213	89%	2,403	1,525	63%	25,201	21,738	86%
Minnesota							21,863 <sup>j</sup>	22,378 <sup>j</sup>	102% <sup>j</sup>
Missouri	17,596 <sup>j</sup>	17,474 <sup>j</sup>	99% <sup>j</sup>	--	--	--	17,596 <sup>j</sup>	17,474 <sup>j</sup>	99% <sup>j</sup>
Montana	1,329	957	72%	NH	NH	NH	1,329	957	72%
Nebraska	NH	NH	NH	5,657			5,657		
New Hampshire	NH	NH	NH	7,428			7,428		
New Mexico	4,342	4,131	95%	NH	NH	NH	4,342	4,131	95%
New York	NH	NH	NH	47,931	55,653	116%	47,931	55,653	116%
North Carolina	NH	NH	NH	19,013	22,271 <sup>j</sup>		19,013	22,271 <sup>j</sup>	
North Dakota	5,892			NH	NH	NH	5,892		
Oregon	13,386			63			13,449		
Puerto Rico	6,240	5,862	94%	NH	NH	NH	6,240	5,862	94%
South Dakota	1,880			--	--	--	1,880		
Utah	NH	NH	NH	27,080			27,080		
Vermont	1,412	1,303	92%	NH	NH	NH	1,412	1,303	92%
Virginia	NH	NH	NH	133,471	120,474	90%	133,471	120,474	90%
Washington	24,424	18,587	76%	NH	NH	NH	24,424	18,587	76%
West Virginia	7,646	7,258	95%	NH	NH	NH	7,646	7,258	95%
Wisconsin	28,336	27,425	97%	NH	NH	NH	28,336	27,425	97%

**Juvenile cases are counted at intake or referral in the following states:**

Arkansas	NH	NH	NH	11,712			11,712		
Connecticut	16,469	16,647	101%	NH	NH	NH	16,469	16,647	101%
District of Columbia	4,765	5,101	107%	--	--	--	4,765	5,101	107%
Hawaii	8,283	8,307	100%	NH	NH	NH	8,283	8,307	100%
Massachusetts	41,632			--	--	--	41,632		
New Jersey	NH	NH	NH	113,593	113,979	100%	113,593	113,979	100%
Ohio	202,835 <sup>j</sup>	203,567 <sup>j</sup>	100% <sup>j</sup>	NH	NH	NH	202,835 <sup>j</sup>	203,567 <sup>j</sup>	100% <sup>j</sup>
Pennsylvania	47,979	48,106	100%	NH	NH	NH	47,979	48,106	100%
Rhode Island	NH	NH	NH	6,502			6,502		

Note: States are included in this table only when all courts with juvenile jurisdiction within that state reported either complete filings and/or dispositions. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable or incomplete, or the calculations are inappropriate. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period, and therefore, did not report any data for 1981.

NH = This case type is not handled in this court.  
 -- = Not applicable.

<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:  
 Kansas--Data include juvenile traffic cases.  
 Kentucky--Data include paternity/bastardy cases.  
 Minnesota--Data include adoptions. Data from all trial courts could not be broken down by court.  
 Missouri--Data include adoptions and termination of parental rights cases.  
 North Carolina--Disposition data include probation violations.  
 Ohio--Data include juvenile traffic cases.

TABLE 39: Criminal-type juvenile petition caseload for trial courts, 1981.

TABLE 40: Status petition caseload for trial courts, 1981.

TABLE 41: Child-victim petition caseload for trial courts, 1981.

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Variations in court jurisdiction and subject matter jurisdiction:

Caseload in these tables is from both general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction courts, and represents the total caseload reported for each case type from each state. The same case type may be handled in different courts from state to state. The court system charts in Part II of this Report should be consulted for a brief summary of the jurisdiction of each court.

Sources of data are found in Appendix B.

Variations in case classification and definitions:

Both the case categories and the data classification in the case categories vary from state to state.

Because such problems exist for these and all other case categories, the case types used in this Report are those chosen for inclusion in the State Court Model Annual Report and State Court Model Statistical Dictionary.

Only states reporting data that could be displayed in the specific case type are included in the tables, and then only if the data are at least 90% complete. Many courts do not break data down beyond the broad juvenile category.

The volume of juvenile cases cannot be compared across all state courts because the statutory age when a juvenile becomes an adult varies from state to state. This variation affects the volume of both juvenile filings and adult criminal filings.

Appropriate analyses:

All percentage calculations that were less than 1% but greater than 0% have been rounded up

to 1%. All percentage calculations that were less than 0% but greater than -1% have been rounded down to -1%.

Disposed cases as percent of filed. This measure represents the percent of the number of filed cases of which the court was able to dispose. The percent is computed by dividing the number of cases disposed of by the number filed and then multiplying by one hundred. A percent over one hundred indicates that the court disposed of more cases than were filed, thus reducing pending caseload. A percent significantly less than one hundred indicates that the court is not keeping up with the volume of cases being filed. This measure was not computed when the filing and disposition data were not comparable.

Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population. The unit of state population used on all court caseload charts is 100,000. This measure compensates for variations in state population and gives a more realistic basis for comparison of caseloads among states of various sizes. If the number of filings was unavailable but the number of dispositions was available, the number of cases disposed per unit of population was entered in this column in place of the number of cases filed per population unit, and the use of this alternative quantity was indicated by enclosing it in parentheses.

Population figures used in the juvenile tables represent the state population under 18 years of age. If all other factors (court jurisdiction, case definition, etc.) are similar, the filed-per-unit-of-population statistic will permit direct comparisons among states of the number of filed cases.

**TABLE 39:**

**Criminal-type juvenile petition caseload for trial courts, 1981.**

*Courts reporting criminal-type juvenile petition caseload. Disposed as a percent of filed.  
Filed per 100,000 juvenile population.*

State and court title	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as percent of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
Juvenile cases are counted at the filing of the petition in the following states:						
Alaska--Superior Court .....		1,117				840
Arizona--Superior Court .....	2,089	7,337	7,851	1,575	107%	916
California--Superior Court .....		48,276	47,459		98%	753
Colorado--District Court and Denver Juvenile Court .....		6,901	5,442		79%	850
Delaware--Family Court .....	1,814	9,143	9,111	1,846	100%	5,644
Florida--Circuit Court .....		48,105 <sup>j</sup>	51,243 <sup>j</sup>		107% <sup>j</sup>	1,993 <sup>j</sup>
Guam--Superior Court .....	106	321	114	207	36%	
Idaho--District Court .....	3,370 <sup>j</sup>	6,912 <sup>j</sup>	8,688 <sup>j</sup>	1,594 <sup>j</sup>	126% <sup>j</sup>	2,237 <sup>j</sup>
Iowa--District Court .....		3,520				437
Kansas--District Court .....		9,040 <sup>j</sup>				1,402 <sup>j</sup>
Louisiana--District Court .....						
City Court .....		3,278	2,878		88%	244
Family Court and Juvenile Court .....						
Minnesota--District Court and County Court ....		19,738 <sup>j</sup>	20,039 <sup>j</sup>		102% <sup>j</sup>	1,724 <sup>j</sup>
New Hampshire--District Court .....		6,162				2,407
New York--Family Court .....	5,996	23,437	26,109	4,479	111%	512
North Carolina--District Court .....		11,559				708
North Dakota--District Court .....		4,462				2,348
Texas--STATE TOTAL .....	7,096	11,562	10,737	7,921	93%	262
District Court .....	6,228	10,132	9,372	6,988	92%	230
County Court at Law and Constitutional County Court .....	868	1,430	1,365	933	95%	32
Utah--Juvenile Court .....		18,342				3,252
Washington--Superior Court .....		18,962	16,130		85%	1,659
Wisconsin--Circuit Court .....		21,522	21,085		98%	1,613

Juvenile case are counted at intake or referral in the following states:

Connecticut--Superior Court .....	3,283 <sup>j</sup>	15,653 <sup>j</sup>	15,928 <sup>j</sup>	3,008 <sup>j</sup>	102% <sup>j</sup>	1,954 <sup>j</sup>
District of Columbia--Superior Court .....	1,238	3,972		998		2,858
Georgia--Superior Court and Juvenile Court ....		19,828 <sup>i</sup>	19,080 <sup>i</sup>		96% <sup>i</sup>	1,206 <sup>i</sup>
Hawaii--Circuit Court .....	2,716	5,284	5,205	2,795	99%	1,901
Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth		36,541				2,520
New Jersey--Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court .....	13,300	101,124	101,388	13,036	100%	5,207
Rhode Island--Family Court .....		5,536 <sup>j</sup>				2,336 <sup>j</sup>

Note: All available data that are 90% or more complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. Court data reported in this table represent state totals, unless otherwise specified. States omitted from this table did not specifically report criminal-type juvenile petitions. State courts with this jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this Report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

Georgia--Data do not include cases from Ware County and Whitfield County.

<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:

Connecticut--Data include status petition cases.  
Florida--Data may include some miscellaneous juvenile cases.  
Idaho--Data include status petition cases.  
Kansas--Data include juvenile traffic cases.  
Minnesota--Data include status petition cases.  
Rhode Island--Data include status petition cases.

**TABLE 40:**

**Status petition caseload for trial courts, 1981.**

*Courts reporting status petition caseload. Disposed as a percent of filed. Filed per 100,000 juvenile population.*

State and court title	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as percent of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
Juvenile cases are counted at the filing of the petition in the following states:						
California--Superior Court .....		1,384	926		67%	22
Colorado--District Court and Denver Juvenile Court .....		50	198		396%	6
Iowa--District Court .....		1,955 <sup>j</sup>				243 <sup>j</sup>
Kansas--District Court .....		1,674				260
Montana--District Court .....		824 <sup>j</sup>				358 <sup>j</sup>
New Hampshire--District Court .....		676				264
New York--Family Court .....	2,568	13,893	15,745	1,970	113%	303
North Carolina--District Court .....		2,237	2,224		99%	137
North Dakota--District Court .....		867				456
Texas--STATE TOTAL .....	1,370	1,557	1,470	1,457	94%	35
District Court .....	1,161	1,172	1,106	1,227	94%	27
County Court at Law and Constitutional County Court .....	209	385	364	230	95%	9
Utah--Juvenile Court .....		6,671				1,183
Wisconsin--Circuit Court .....		4,545	4,196		92%	341

Juvenile cases are counted at intake or referral in the following states:

District of Columbia--Superior Court .....	104 <sup>j</sup>	351 <sup>j</sup>		51 <sup>j</sup>		253 <sup>j</sup>
Georgia--Superior Court and Juvenile Court .....		6,564 <sup>i</sup>	6,131 <sup>i</sup>		93% <sup>i</sup>	399 <sup>i</sup>
Hawaii--Circuit Court .....	577	1,508	1,555	530	103%	542
Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth .....		3,281				226
New Jersey--Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court .....	1,058 <sup>j</sup>	12,469 <sup>j</sup>	12,591 <sup>j</sup>	936 <sup>j</sup>	101% <sup>j</sup>	642 <sup>j</sup>

Note: Data reported in this table are state totals, unless otherwise indicated. All available data that are 90% or more complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. States omitted from this table did not specifically report status petition cases. State courts with this jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this Report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

Georgia--Data do not include cases from Ware County and Whitfield County.

<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:

District of Columbia--Data may include some miscellaneous juvenile cases.

Iowa--Data include child-victim petitions.

Montana--Data include criminal-type cases.

New Jersey--Data include child-victim petitions.

TABLE 41:

## Child-victim petition caseload for trial courts, 1981.

Courts reporting child-victim petition caseload. Disposed as a percent of filed. Filed per 100,000 juvenile population.

State and court title	Begin pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending	Disposed as percent of filed	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
Juvenile cases are counted at the filing of the petition in the following states:						
Alaska--Superior Court .....		197 <sup>j</sup>				148 <sup>j</sup>
California--Superior Court .....		21,163	15,313		72%	330
Colorado--District Court and Denver Juvenile Court .....		2,535	1,964		77%	312
Florida--Circuit Court .....		15,152	13,445		89%	628
Idaho--District Court .....	284	536	544	276	101%	174
Kansas--District Court .....		1,804				280
Louisiana--District Court .....						
Family Court and Juvenile Court .....						
City Court .....		528	571		108%	39
Minnesota--District Court and County Court .....		2,125 <sup>j</sup>	2,339 <sup>j</sup>		110% <sup>j</sup>	186 <sup>j</sup>
Montana--District Court .....		505				220
New Hampshire--District Court .....		590				231
New York--Family Court .....	3,581	10,081	13,627	3,776	135%	220
North Carolina--District Court .....		5,217	6,815		131%	320
North Dakota--District Court .....		530				279
Utah--Juvenile Court .....		1,750				310
Washington--Superior Court .....		5,462 <sup>j</sup>	2,457 <sup>j</sup>		45% <sup>j</sup>	478 <sup>j</sup>
Juvenile cases are counted at intake or referral in the following states:						
Connecticut--Superior Court .....	386	816	719	483	88%	102
District of Columbia--Superior Court .....	180	436	479	137	110%	314
Georgia--Superior Court and Juvenile Court.....		3,258 <sup>i</sup>	2,865 <sup>i</sup>		88% <sup>i</sup>	198 <sup>i</sup>
Hawaii--Circuit Court .....	398	305	392	311	129%	110
Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth .		1,434				99
Rhode Island--Family Court .....		647				273

Note: All available data that are 90% or more complete are entered in the table. Unless otherwise indicated, these figures represent state totals. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 90% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. States omitted from this table did not specifically report child-victim cases. State courts with this jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts located in Part II of this Report. Oklahoma changed reporting years during this period; therefore, it did not report data for 1981.

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete:

Georgia--Data are missing from Ware and Whitfield Counties.

<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category:

Alaska--Data include status petition cases.

Minnesota--Data include adoption cases.

Washington--Data include status petition cases.

TABLE 42: Filed cases (total, civil, criminal, and juvenile cases) in trial courts, 1976-1981.

Each previous edition of the annual report has included two tables that document the change in the size of trial court caseloads for the preceding few years. For this edition of the series, some changes were made in the classification of several types of cases. As a result, 1981 figures for total civil, criminal, and traffic cases filed in trial courts are not directly comparable to the figures given for these quantities in previous years. The section titled "Dynamics of Improvement" in the Introduction of this annual report contains a description for the changes that have been made.

The criminal and traffic caseloads were most affected by the changes in classification. Preliminary hearing cases were removed from the criminal caseload of limited jurisdiction courts, DWI cases were transferred from traffic to criminal, and ordinance violations were transferred from criminal to traffic. This transfer of categories had the effect of substantially reducing the volume of cases classified as criminal and increasing those classified as traffic. A small number of matters were removed from the civil caseload, also.

A graph that shows the change in case filing volume over the years of the annual report series has been substituted for the tables that were used in previous editions to document the trend. Previous estimates have been graphed as they were calculated rather than recalculating them to make them comparable to those estimated for 1981. Civil, criminal, and juvenile figures are included in the graph. No estimate was made of the total volume of traffic/other violations cases filed or disposed in 1981, so traffic/other violation cases are not included in the graph. Between 1976 and 1980 estimates of the size of the traffic caseload (not including ordinance violations) have varied from the high of 65 million (in 1976) to a low of 55 million (in 1979). Traffic cases constitute the largest portion of trial court filings, but are not considered to consume a proportionately large amount of the resources of most trial courts. In the past, estimates of the size of the traffic caseload have been very sensitive to the assumptions that were made about the content of the caseload in the course of the analysis. Some courts that handle traffic cases include parking tickets in their jurisdiction. In other states, parking cases are initially disposed by an administrative agency. Courts that handle parking cases will be able to dispose of substantially more cases with the same resources than those that do not. In previous years it was not known which courts that did not report data for their traffic caseloads handled traffic cases and which did not. At the same time that the data were being collected and compiled for this 1981 Annual Report, CSIM project staff were also collecting information on the specific jurisdiction of each trial court, available as the State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting. In future years it will be possible to once again estimate the size of the total traffic/other violation caseload with the help of court jurisdiction information contained in this guide.

Trend in civil caseload. The total estimated civil caseload has increased steadily over the entire period represented from 12.2 million cases filed in 1976 to 14.8 million cases filed in 1981, an increase over the 5-year period of 21 percent. This increase was greater than the increase in the total U.S. population (6.8 percent for the same period).

Total population was found to be the best predictor of the total volume of civil filings and dispositions. The per capita rate of filings per capita increased from 56 cases for every 1,000 persons in 1976 to 63 per 1,000 persons in 1981. The increase in the estimated total of filings and dispositions has been steady over the period, even though different combinations of variables have been used each year to estimate the total civil caseload. These per capita increases suggest that the civil caseload is increasing for two reasons: the base group that is responsible for filing cases is increasing; and that base group is filing cases at an accelerating rate. The per capita filing rate increased only .05 cases per 1,000 population between 1980 and 1981 (the difference is not apparent on the accompanying table due to rounding). It will be interesting to discover what happens to the per capita filing rate between 1981 and the present, if it continued to increase, if its growth ceased, or if it began to decline.

Trend in criminal caseload. From the figures presented, it is not possible to say anything about the long term trend in the number of criminal cases filed. For some reason, the estimate of the total criminal caseload has been much more volatile than that for the civil caseload. Per capita filings have varied for the period, also.

For this and future editions of this report, portions of the criminal caseload were reclassified so that cases included in it would be truly criminal matters. DWI/DUI cases were transferred to the criminal from the traffic category, and ordinance violations were transferred from criminal to traffic. The total number of criminal cases estimated to have been filed during 1981 was more than two million less than the number estimated for 1980. It is not known at this time what the total estimate would have been if components of the criminal caseload had been constant over the period, but presumably it would have been larger than what was estimated here. The break in the line on the graph is used to indicate the change in the criminal caseload composition.

Trend in juvenile caseload. In 1980 and again in 1981 estimates of the total filing volume of juvenile cases were lower than they were for the previous year. Between 1976 and 1981 the total U.S. juvenile population declined 4.4 percent. Juvenile filings reached their peak in 1979 of 1.8 million cases. Since then they have fallen by more than one-quarter. The per capita filing rates for juvenile cases have followed the same pattern as the filing figures. Juvenile cases filed per 1,000 juvenile population increased from 18 in 1976 to 27 in 1979. From that high point they declined to 23 in 1980 to 21 in 1981.

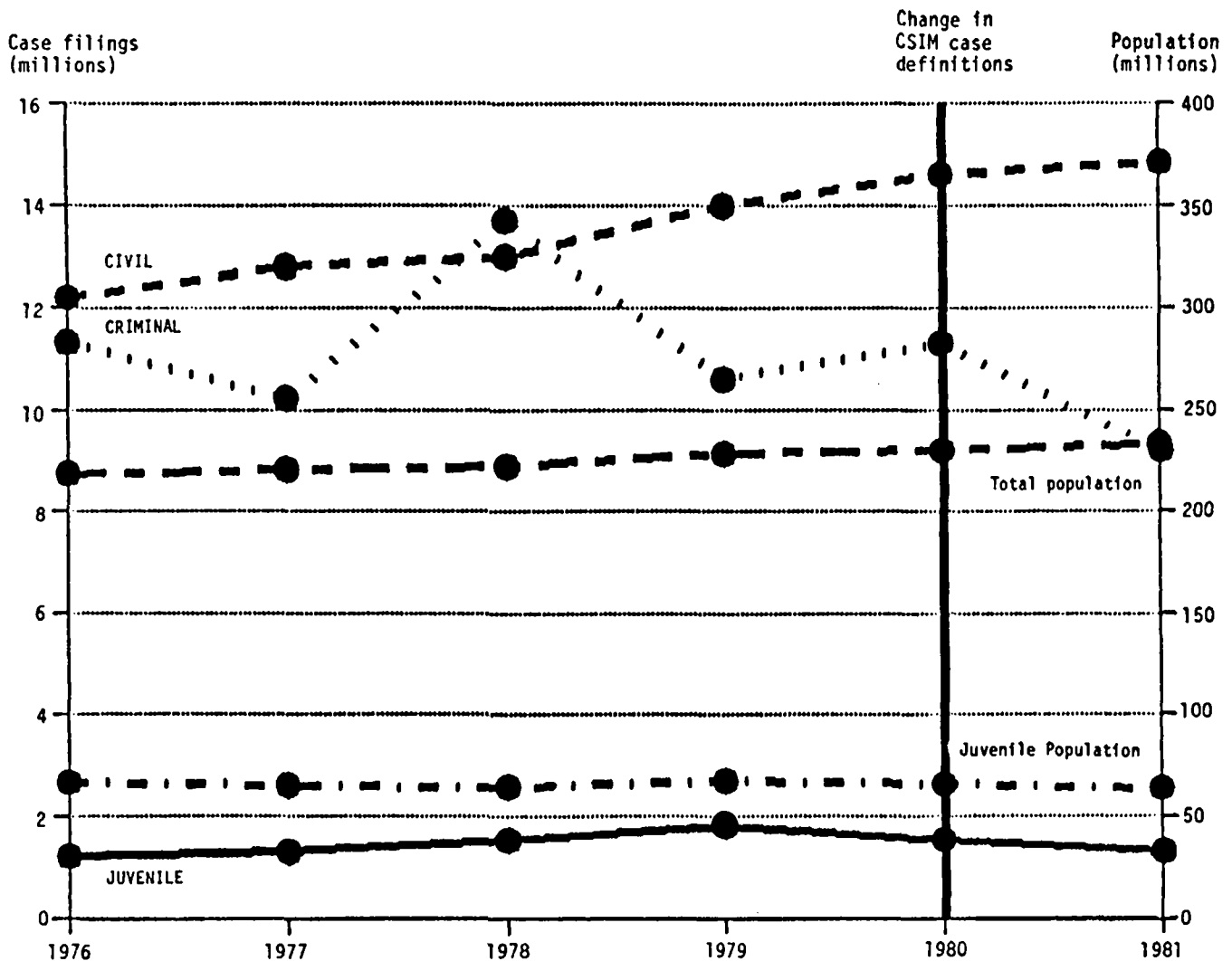


**TABLE 42:**  
**Filed cases (total, civil, criminal, and juvenile cases) in trial courts, 1976-1981.**  
*Number of cases filed.*

Estimates of cases filed and population, 1976-1981

	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>
<b>Civil</b>						
Estimated filings	12,150,000	12,800,000	13,000,000	14,000,000	14,600,000	14,800,000
% one-year increase		5.3%	1.6%	7.7%	4.3%	1.4%
Filed per 1,000 population	56	58	59	61	64	64
<b>Criminal</b>						
Estimated filings	11,300,000	10,200,000	13,700,000	10,600,000	11,300,000	9,200,000*
% one-year increase		-9.7%	21.2%	-22.6%	6.6%	(*)
Filed per 1,000 population	52	46	62	47	49	40*
<b>Juvenile</b>						
Estimated filings	1,200,000	1,300,000	1,500,000	1,800,000	1,500,000	1,300,000
% one-year increase		8.3%	15.4%	20.0%	-16.7%	-13.3%
Filed per 1,000 juvenile pop.	18	20	23	27	23	21
<b>Population</b>						
Total	217,882,000	219,758,000	222,093,000	227,836,000	229,712,000	232,668,000
Juvenile (less than 18 yrs)	66,098,000	64,982,000	64,283,000	66,782,000	65,684,000	63,163,000

\*A change in definition of criminal caseload was made for 1981. This figure is not comparable to previous figures given for the criminal caseload. See text and introduction to this annual report.



**Part II**  
**State court**  
**system charts**

## Part II

### State court system charts

The following section begins with a prototype chart of the various state court systems. This prototype depicts the organization of the courts within a state, including the number of judges and the number of courts, their subject-matter jurisdictions and routes of appeal.

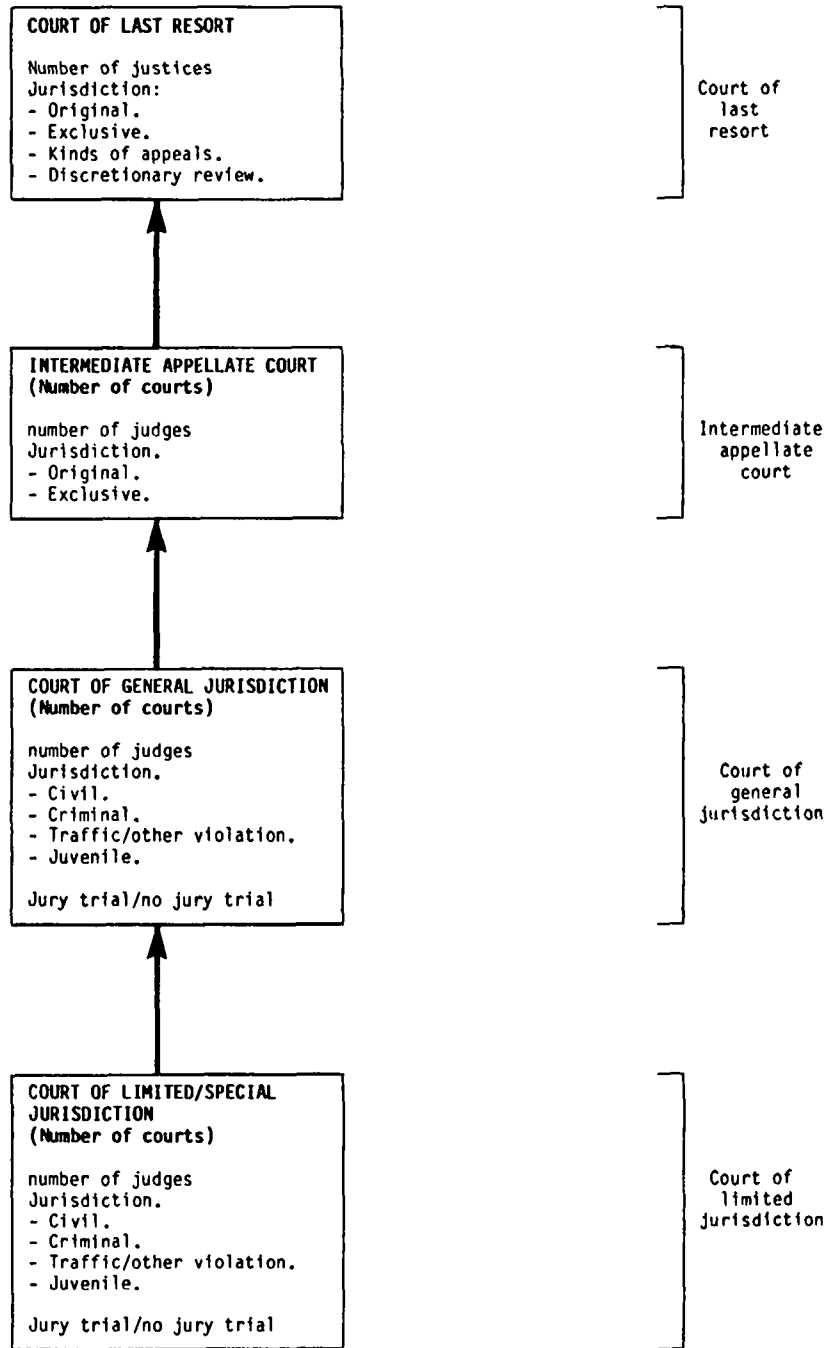
Following the prototype are the state court system charts arranged in alphabetical order. Each chart is arranged so as to illustrate, where appropriate, the four basic categories of state courts: courts of last resort, intermediate appellate courts, general jurisdiction trial courts and limited jurisdiction trial courts.

In some situations, a special note indicates the existence of a court that is not placed in the overall system chart. This situation arises when a state sets up a court of special jurisdiction that exclusively receives complaints which would be handled by administrative agencies and boards in other states. In order to maintain this project's fundamental goal of reporting comparable national data on state courts, complaints handled by such bodies are not reported in this database. The purpose, however, of acknowledging the existence of these courts

in the system charts is to alert the reader to the fact that some states treat these adjudicatory bodies as courts. At present, however, these complaints do not comport with any CSIM project case definition.

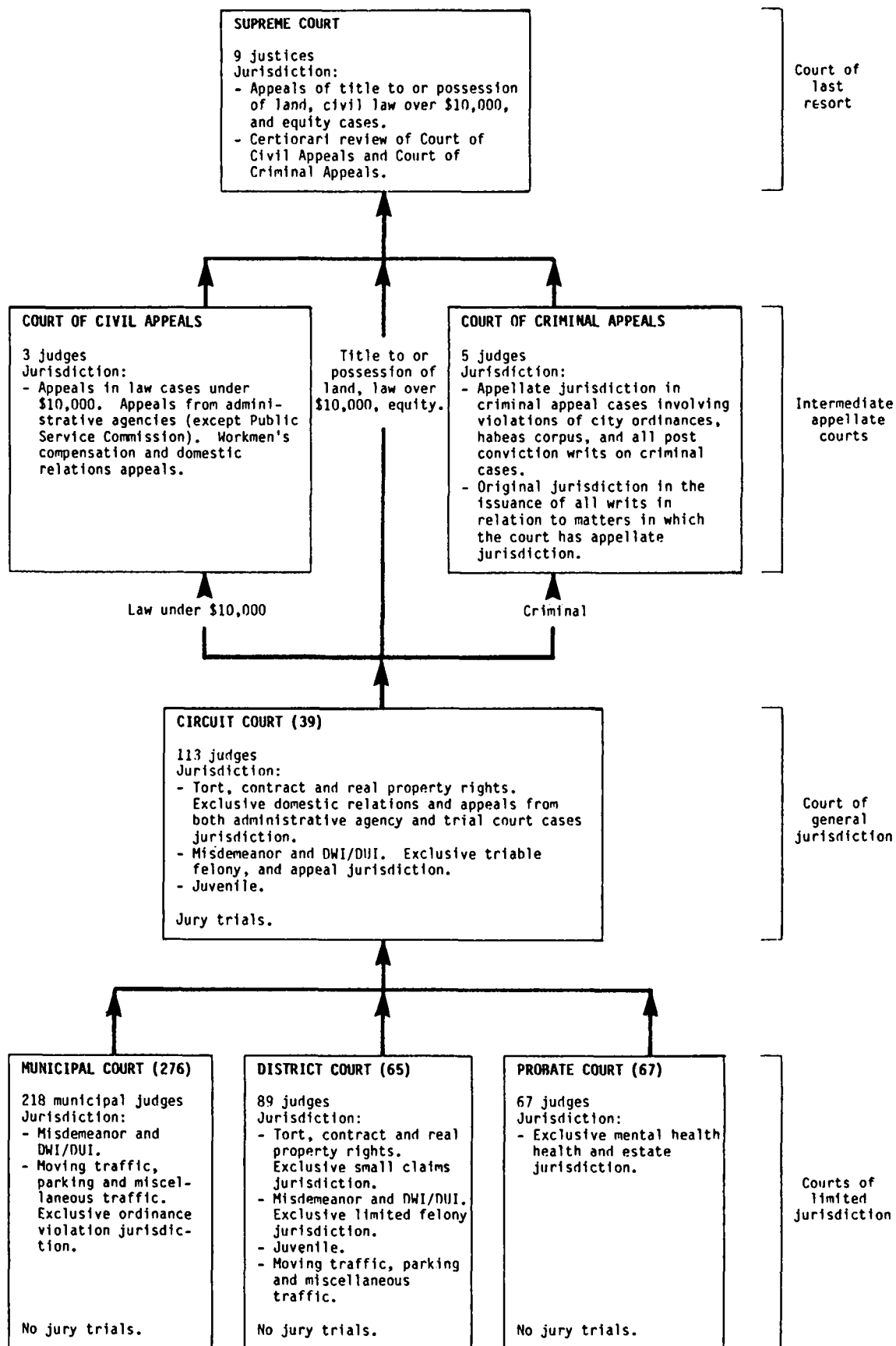
The description of each trial court's subject matter jurisdiction is generally restricted to those CSIM Project case types described in the Model Statistical Dictionary. Unless the description indicates that a court has exclusive jurisdiction over a specific case type, one can assume that the simple listing of a case type indicates the court shares that jurisdiction with other courts. For the first time in this statistical series, the reader can assume that the absence of a case type in any description reflects the court's lack of jurisdiction over that subject matter. The ability to make such statements is largely attributable to the work of the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting. This guide has also enabled staff to be more complete in describing the extent to which jury trials are possible within a court.

# STATE COURT SYSTEM PROTOTYPE, 1981



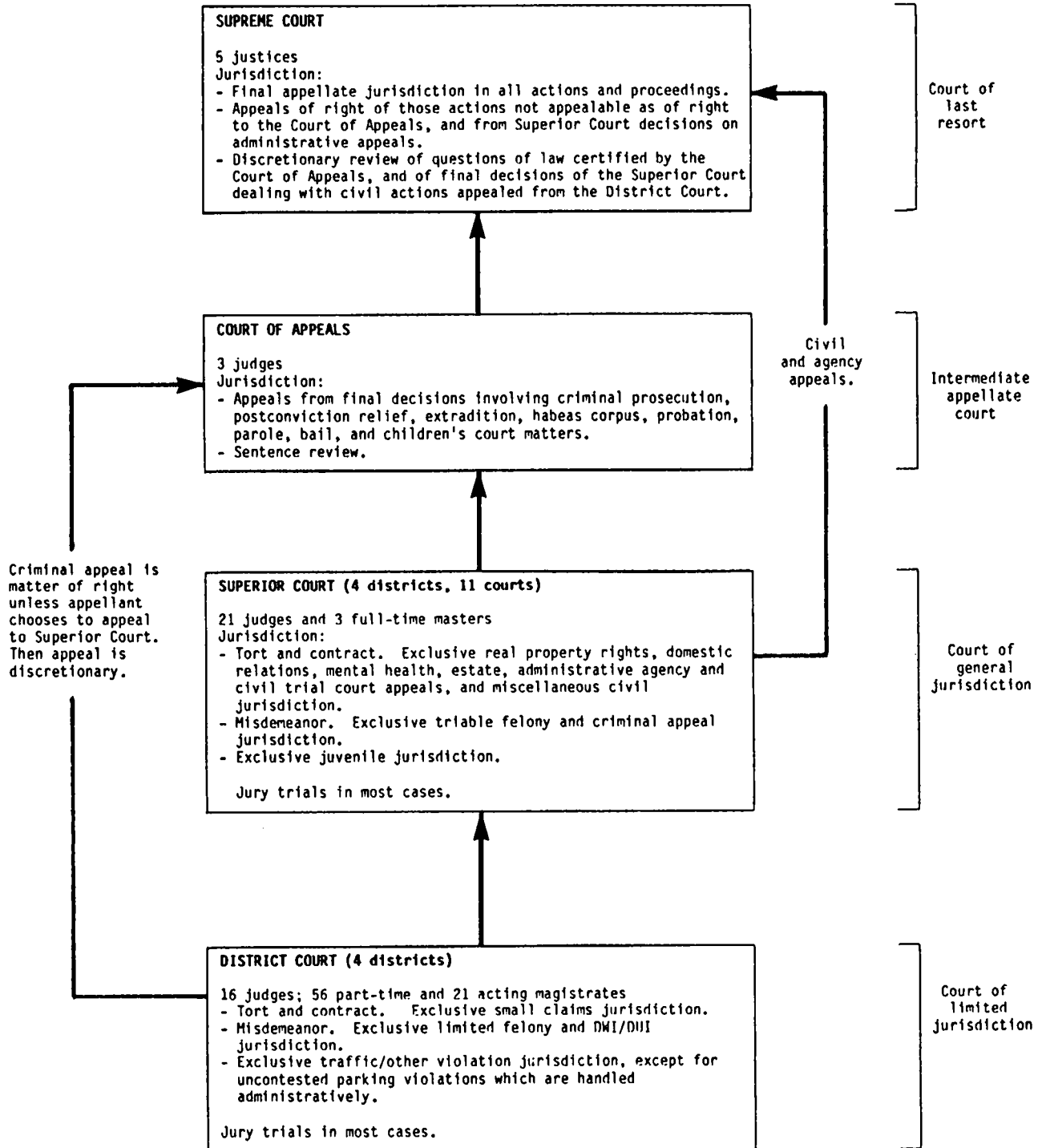
↑ Indicates route of appeal.

# ALABAMA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



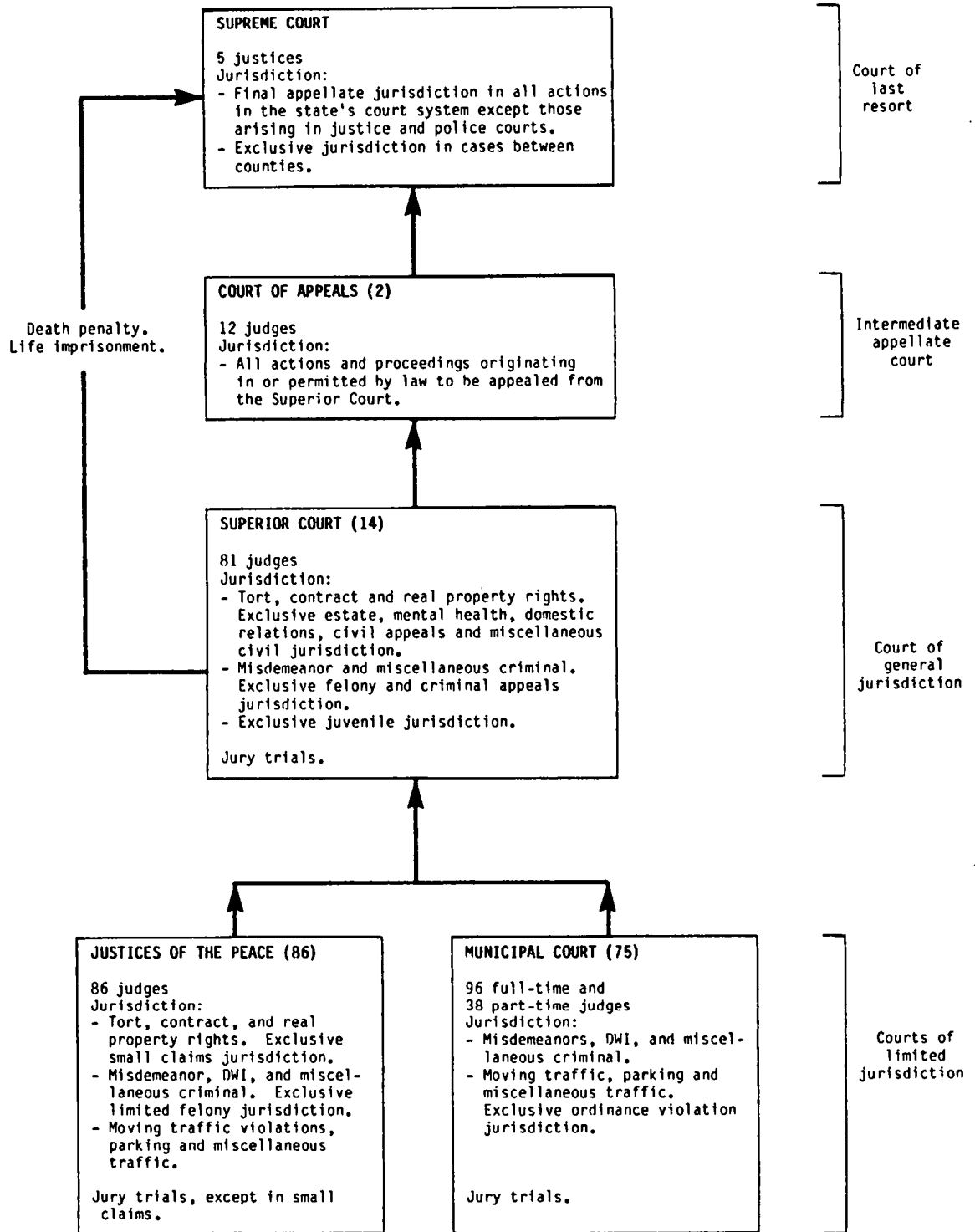
↑ Indicates route of appeal.

# ALASKA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



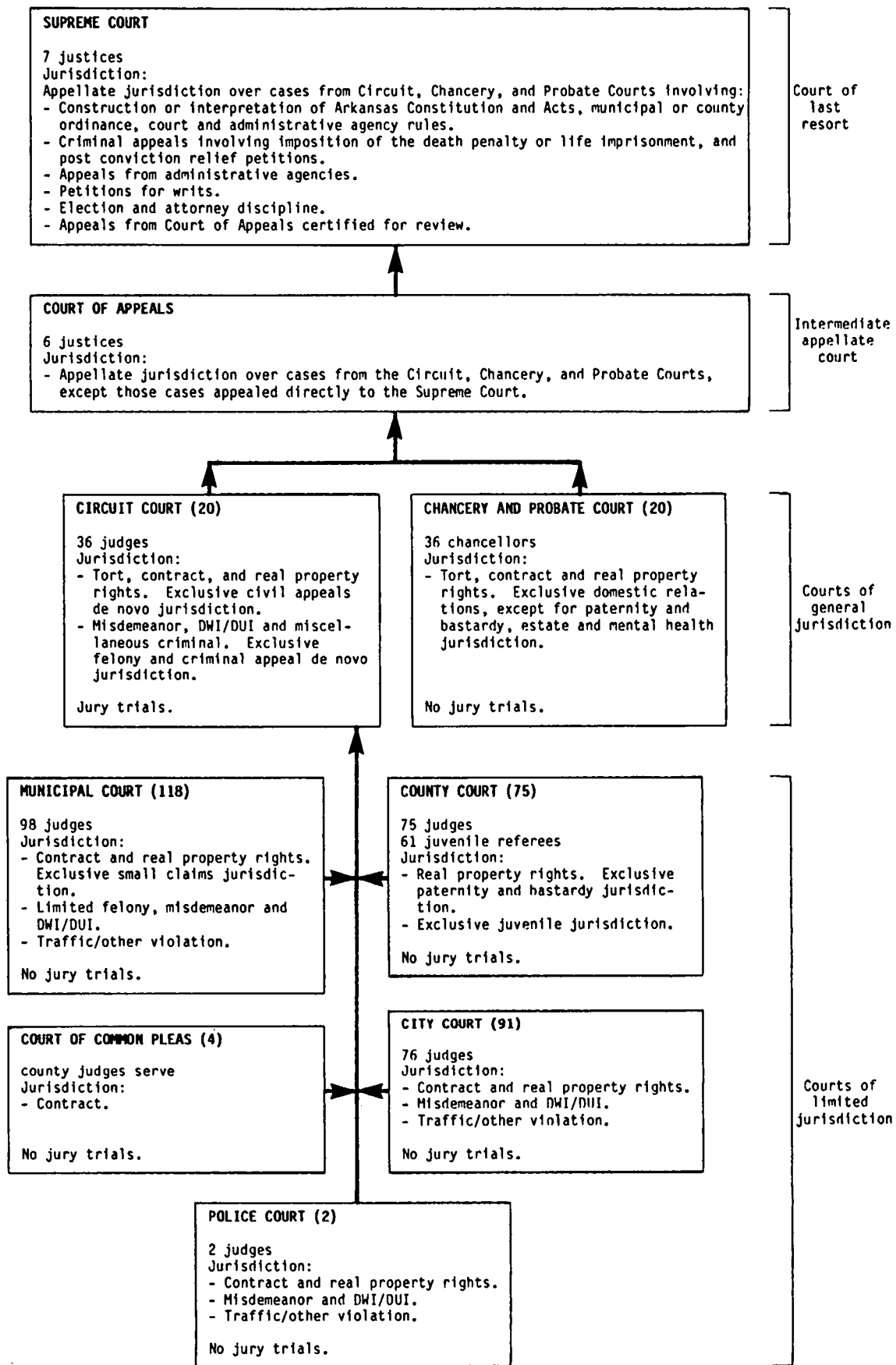
↑ Indicates route of appeal.

# ARIZONA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

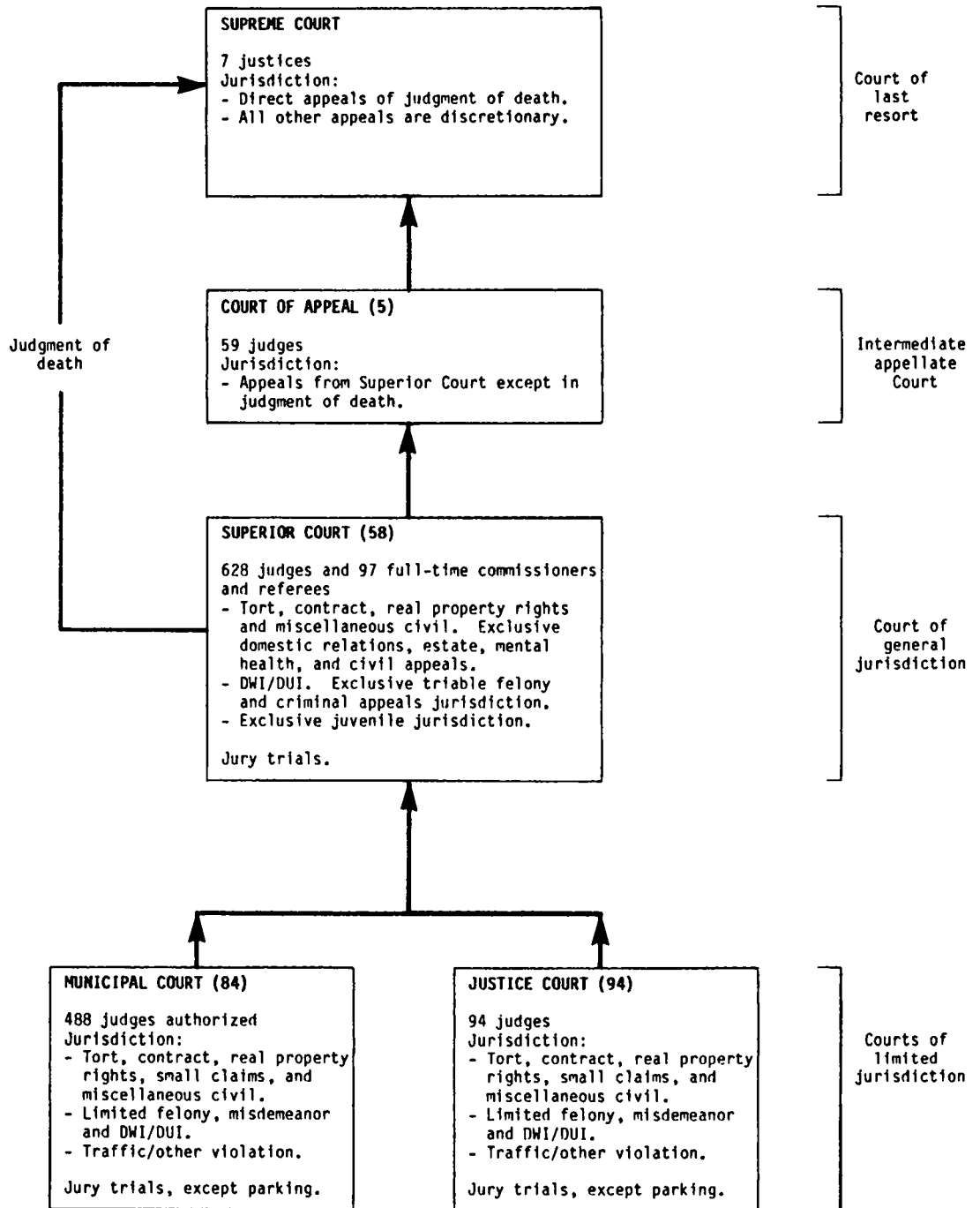
# ARKANSAS COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

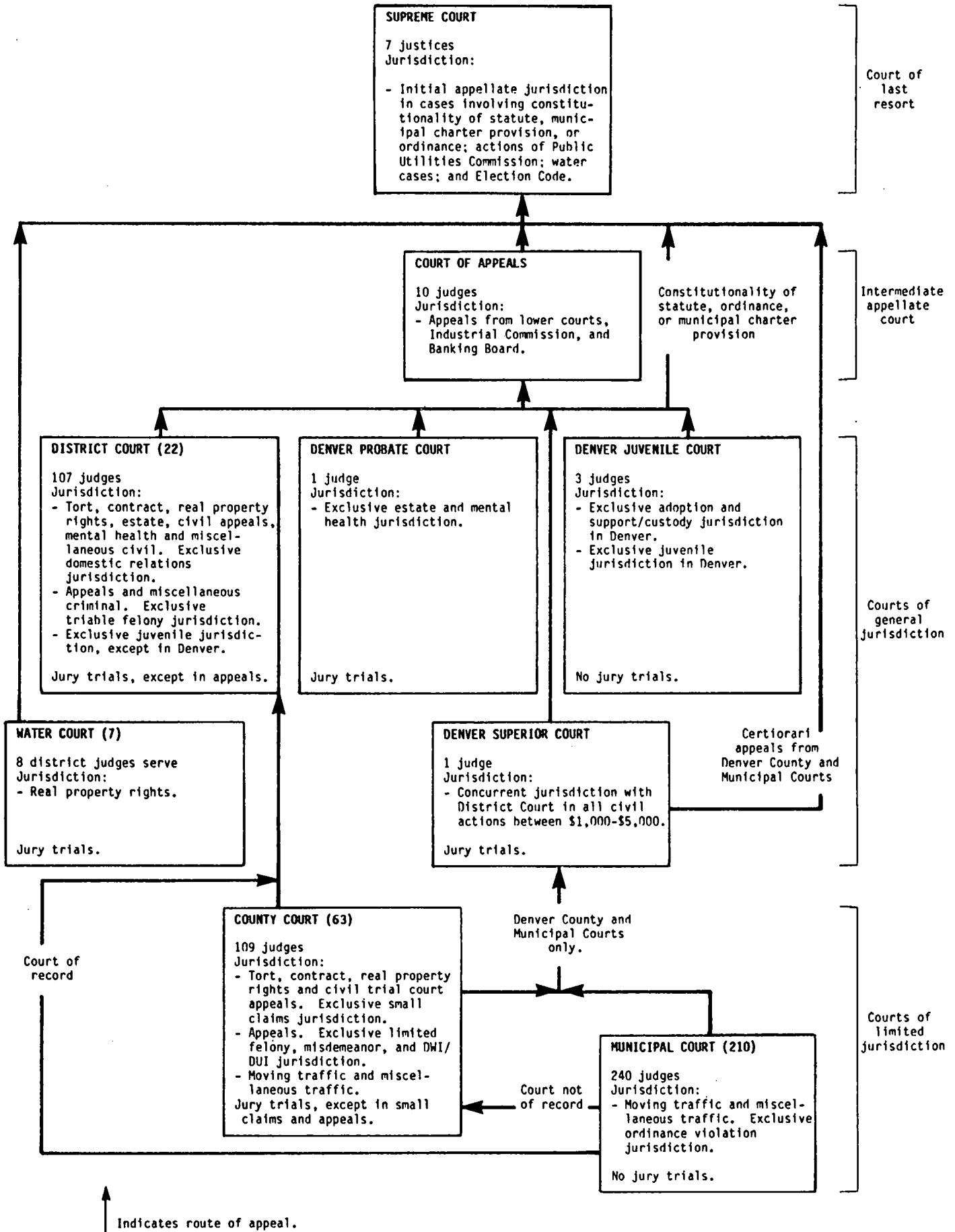


# CALIFORNIA COURT SYSTEM, 1981

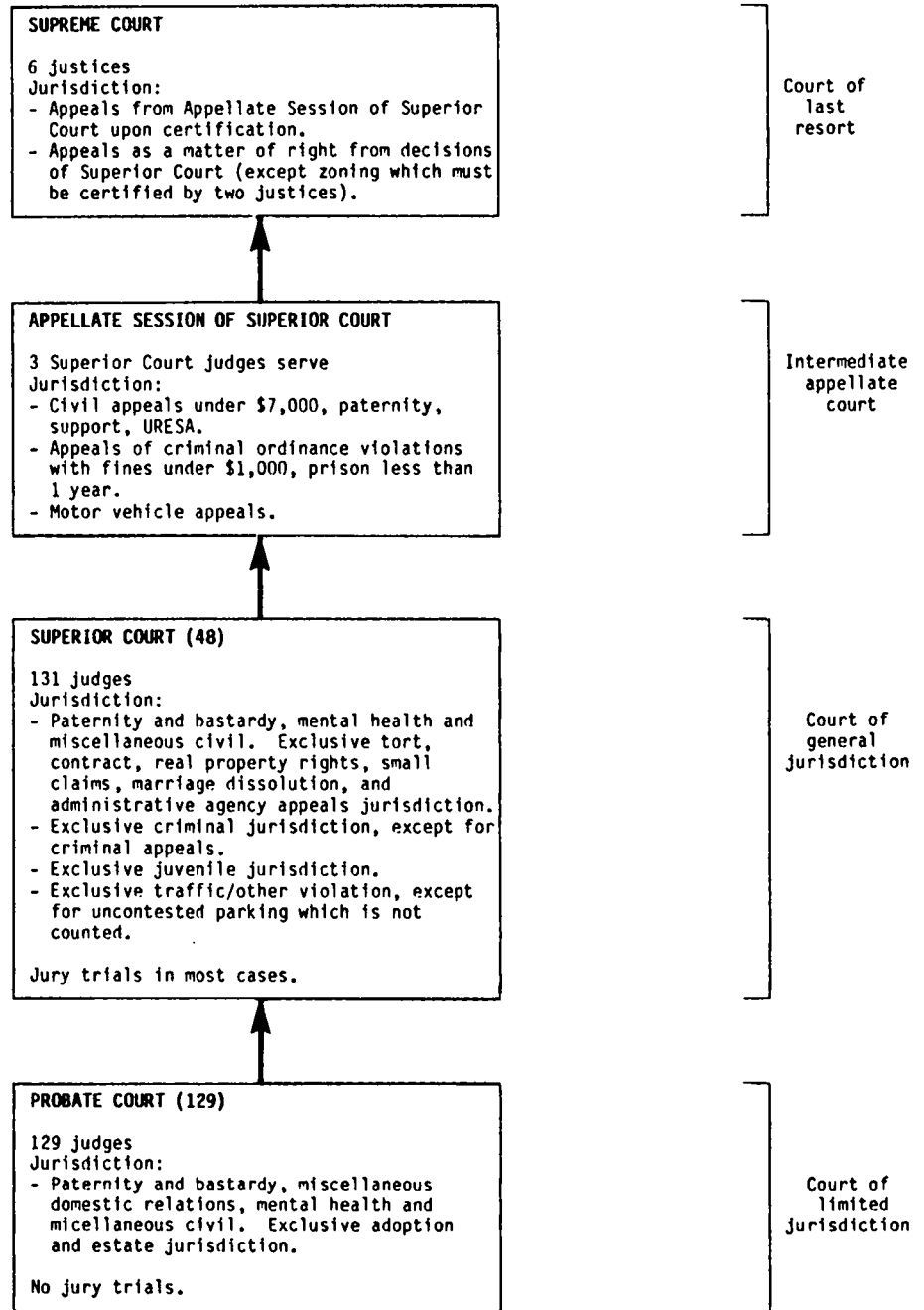


↑ Indicates route of appeal.

# COLORADO COURT SYSTEM, 1981

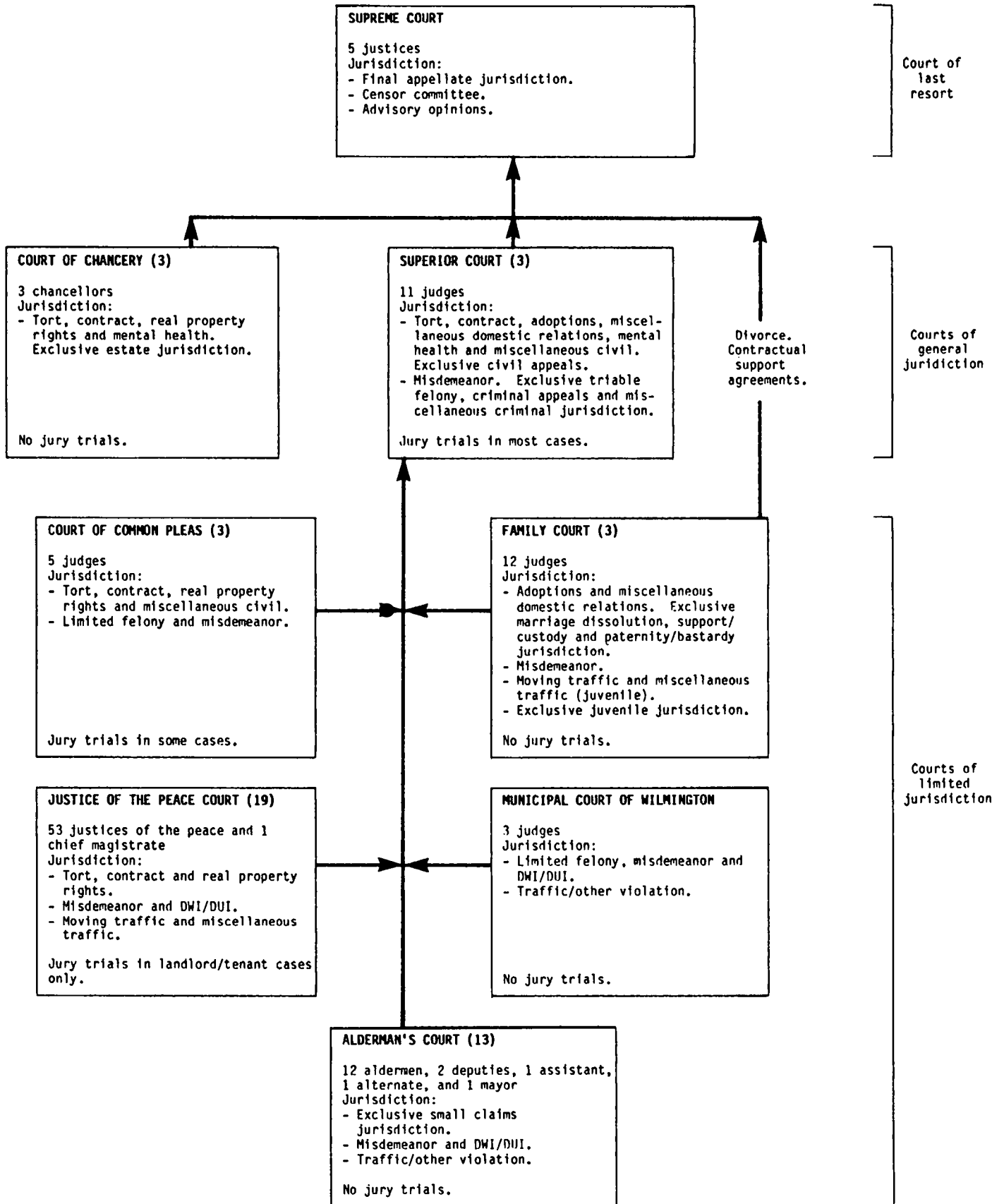


# CONNECTICUT COURT SYSTEM, 1981



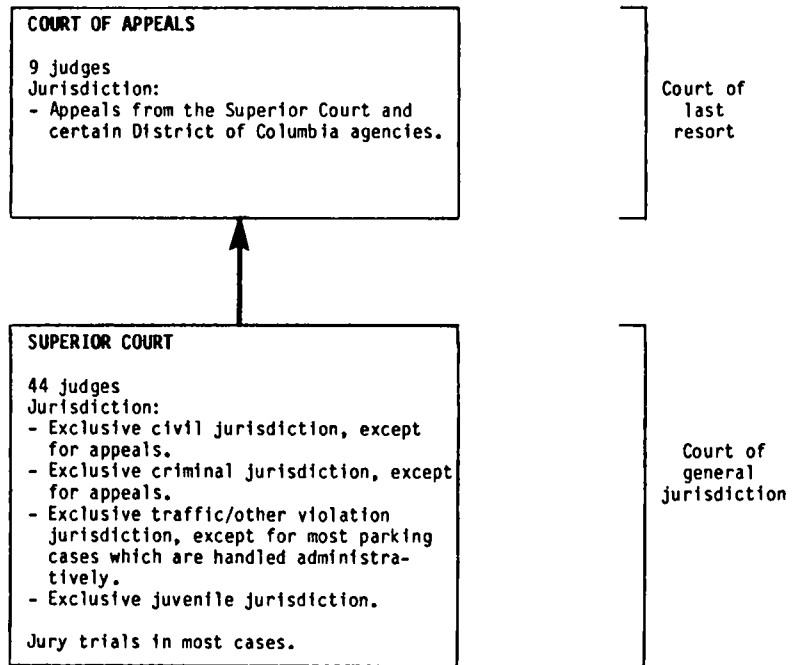
↑ Indicates route of appeal.

# DELAWARE COURT SYSTEM, 1981



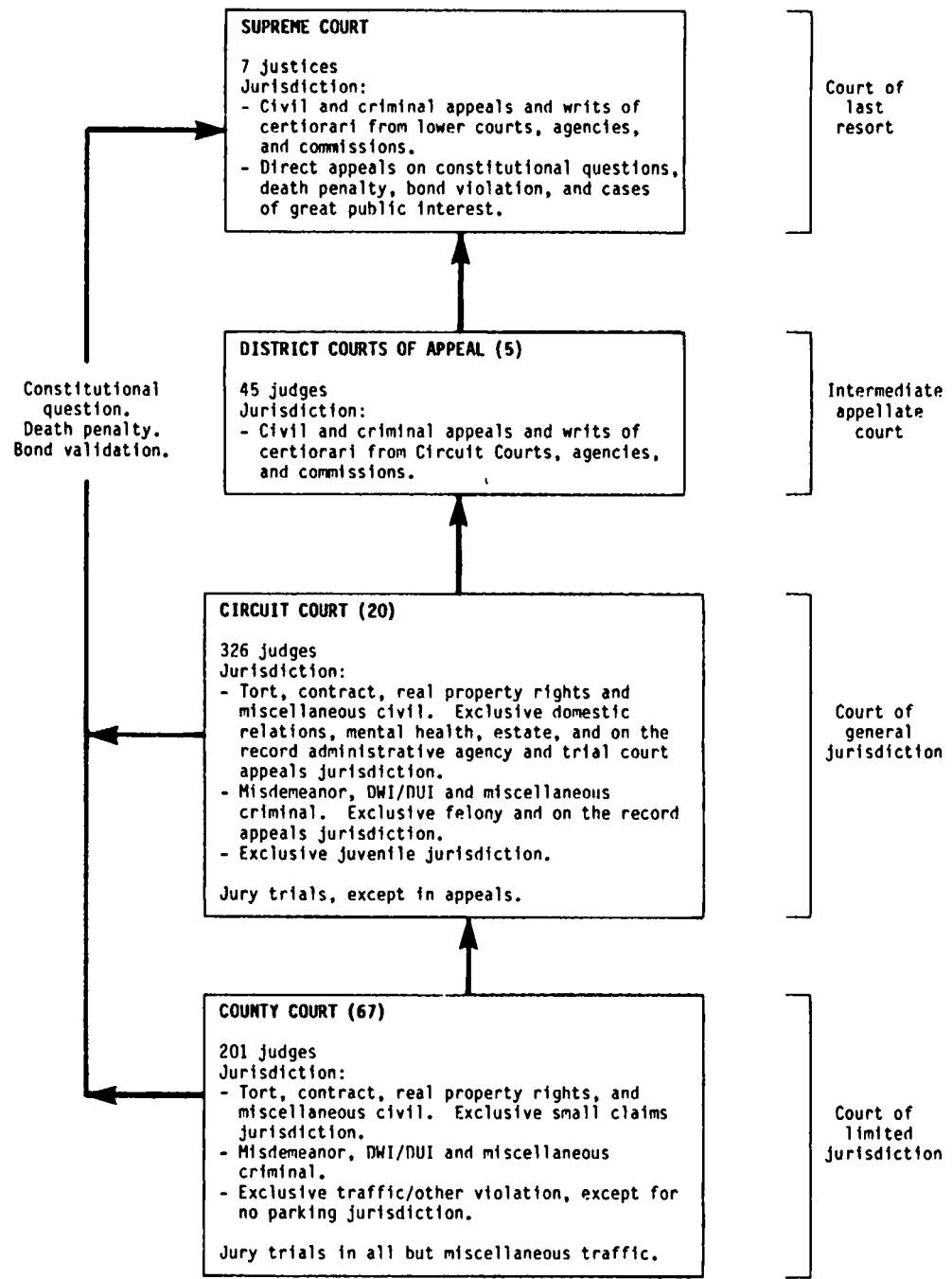
↑ Indicates route of appeal.

# DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



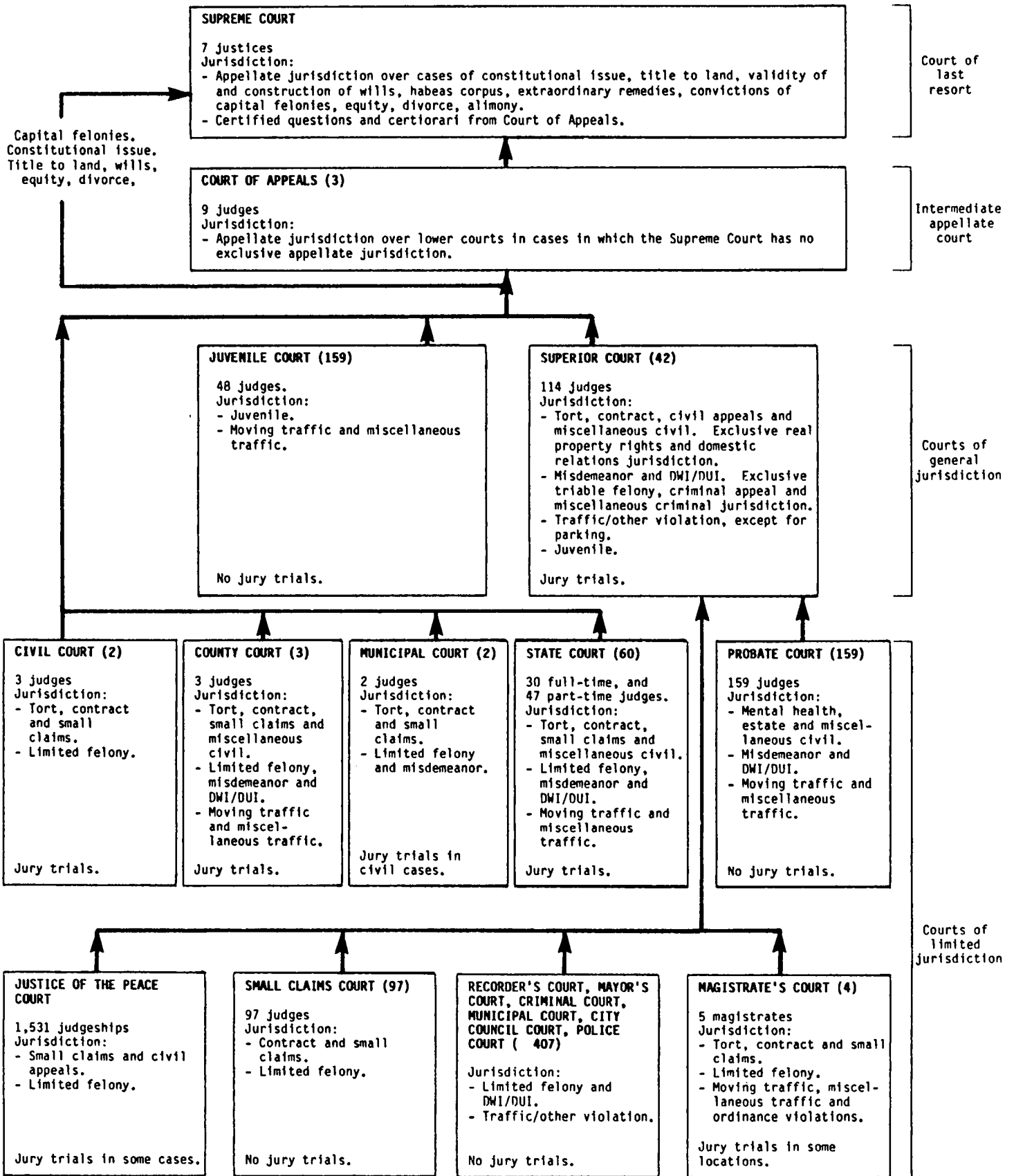
↑  
Indicates route of appeal.

# FLORIDA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



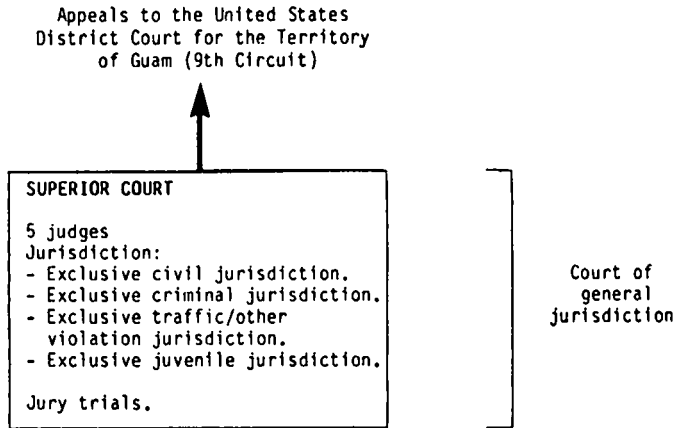
↑ Indicates route of appeal.

# GEORGIA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

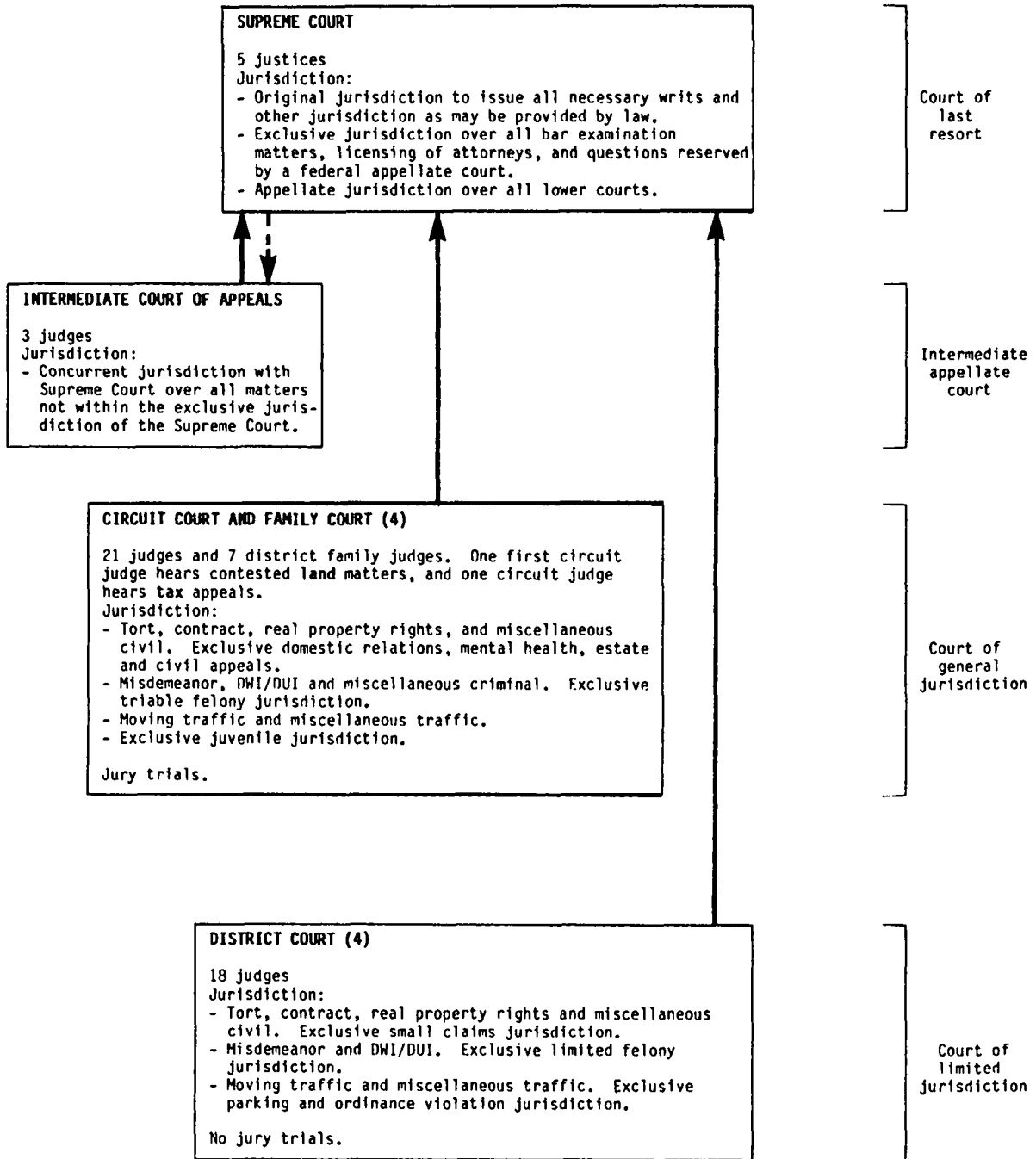
# GUAM COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

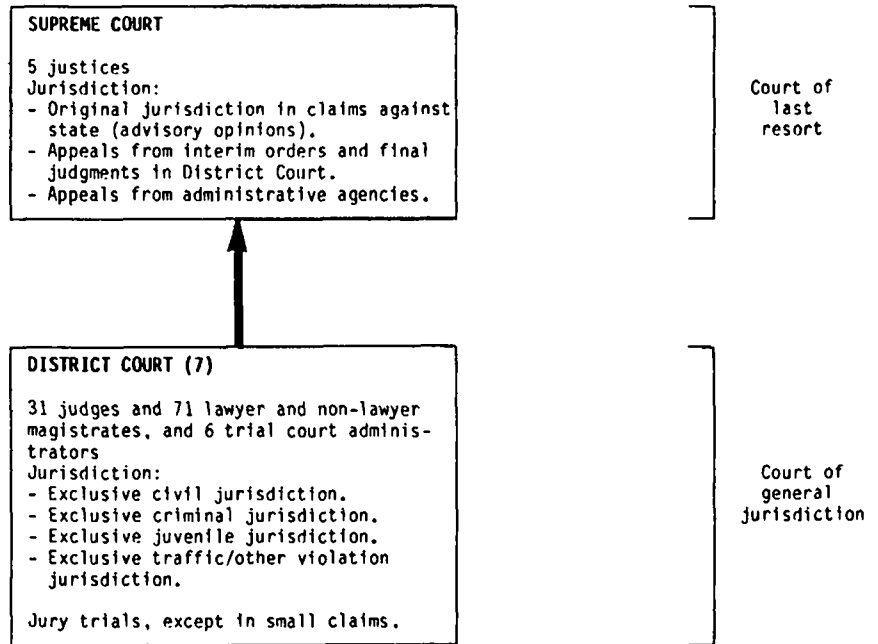


# HAWAII COURT SYSTEM, 1981



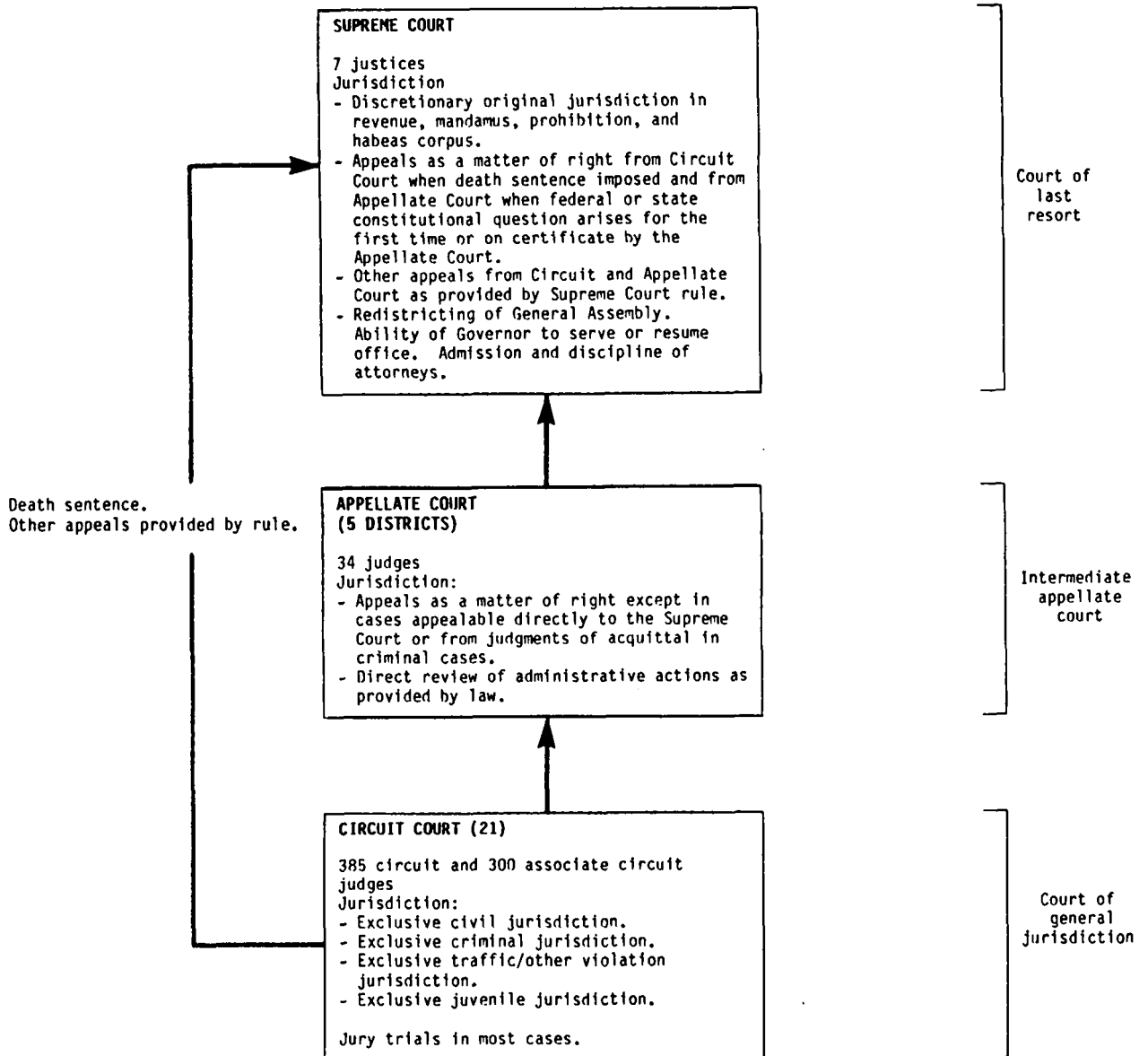
↑ Indicates route of appeal.  
↑ Indicates assignment of cases.

# IDAHO COURT SYSTEM, 1981



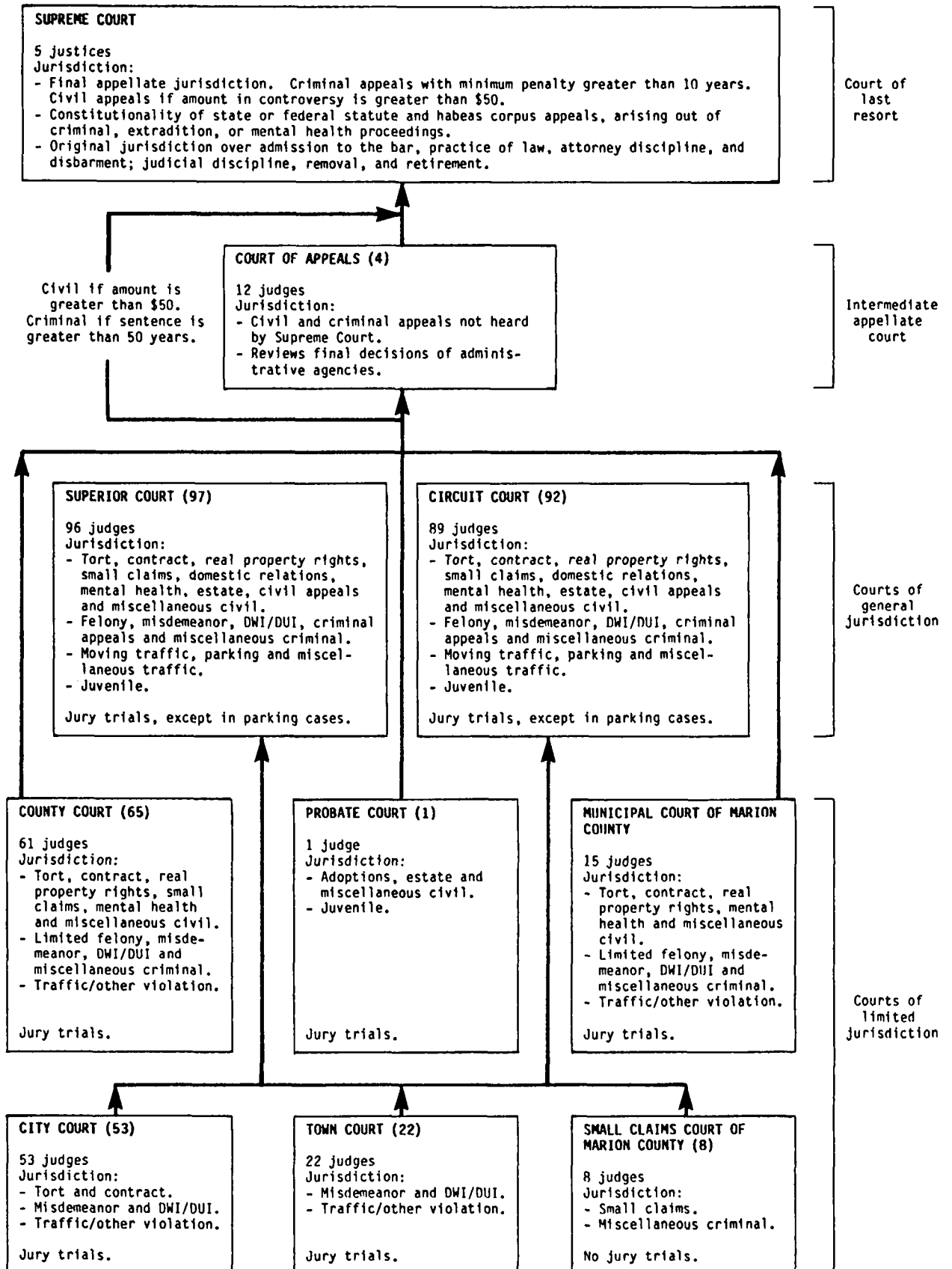
Indicates route of appeal.

# ILLINOIS COURT SYSTEM, 1981

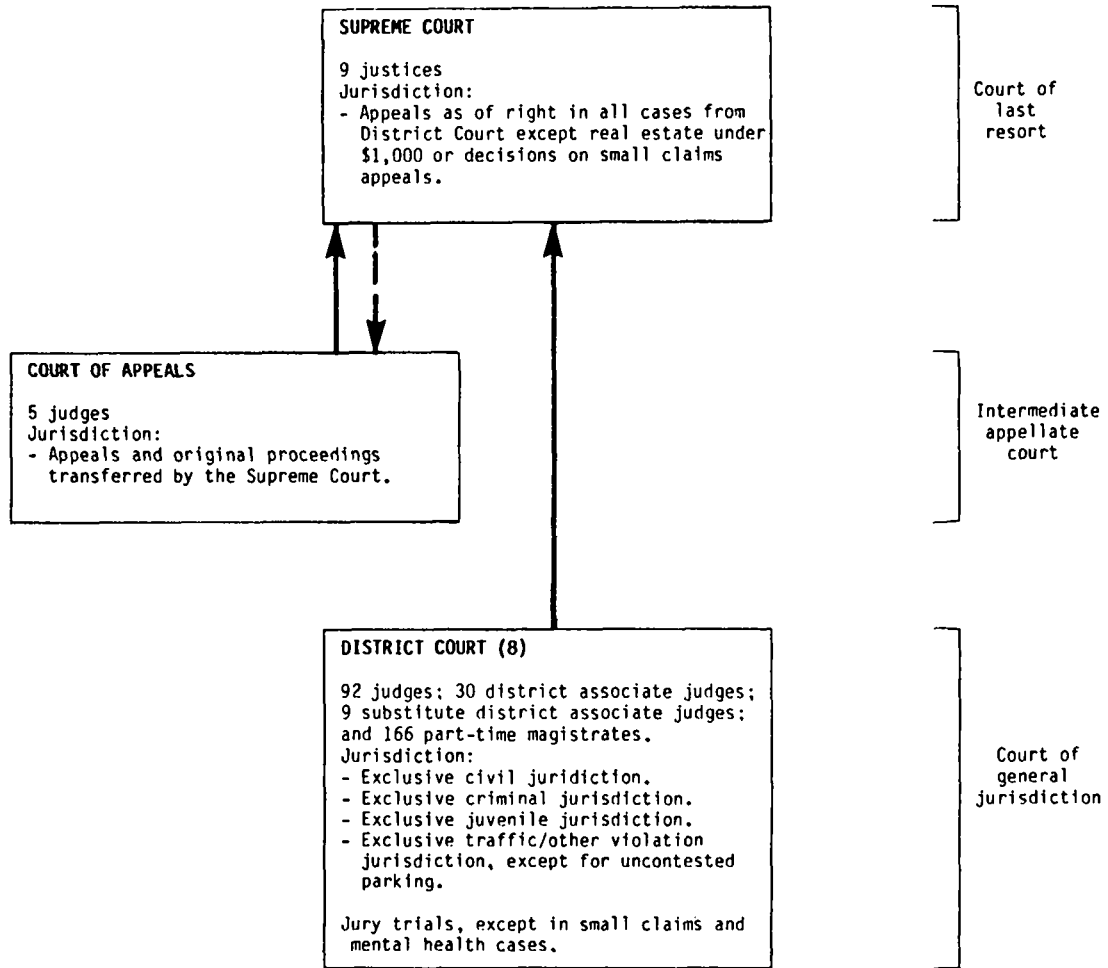


↑ Indicates route of appeal.

# INDIANA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



# IOWA COURT SYSTEM, 1981

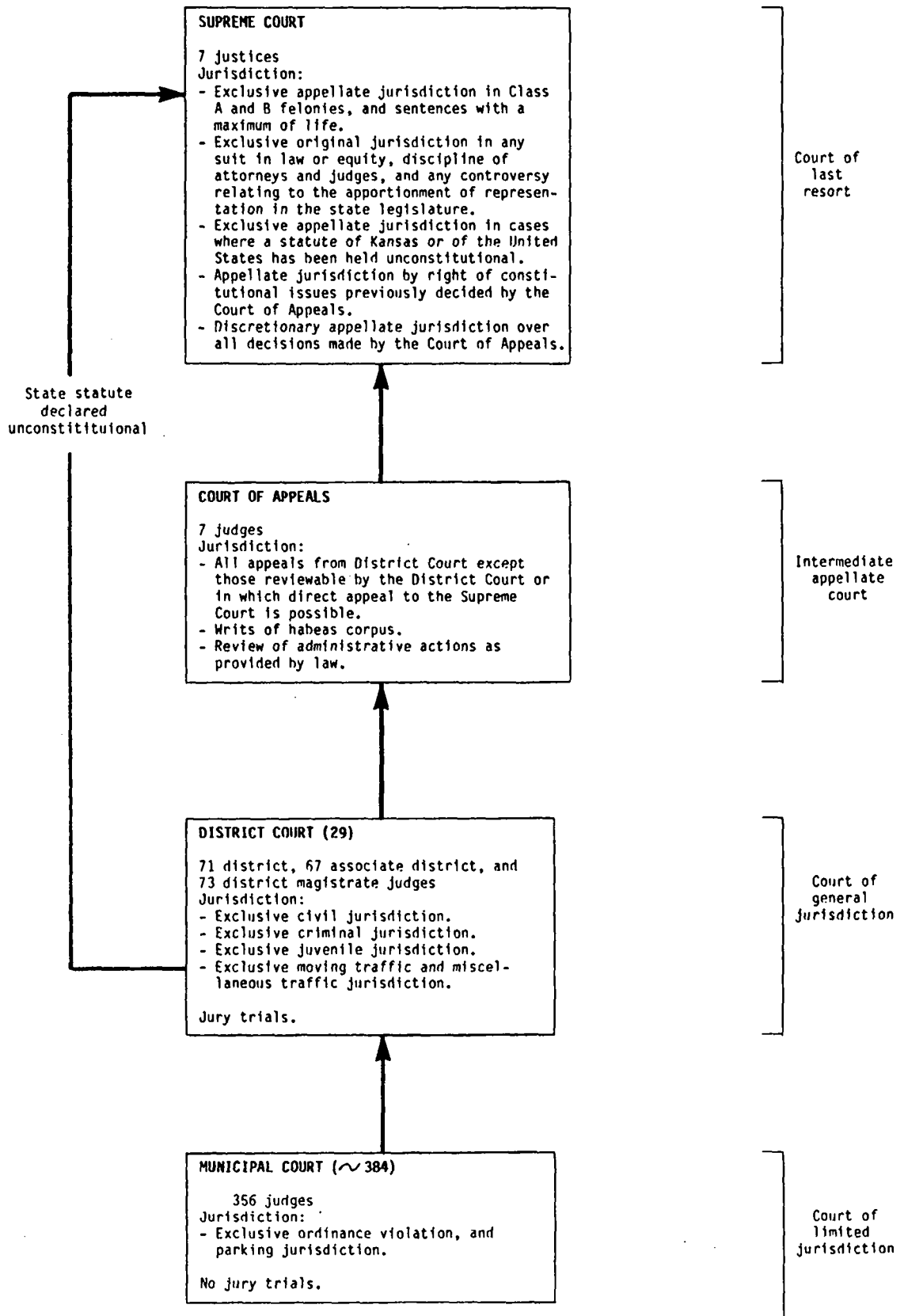


Indicates route of appeal.



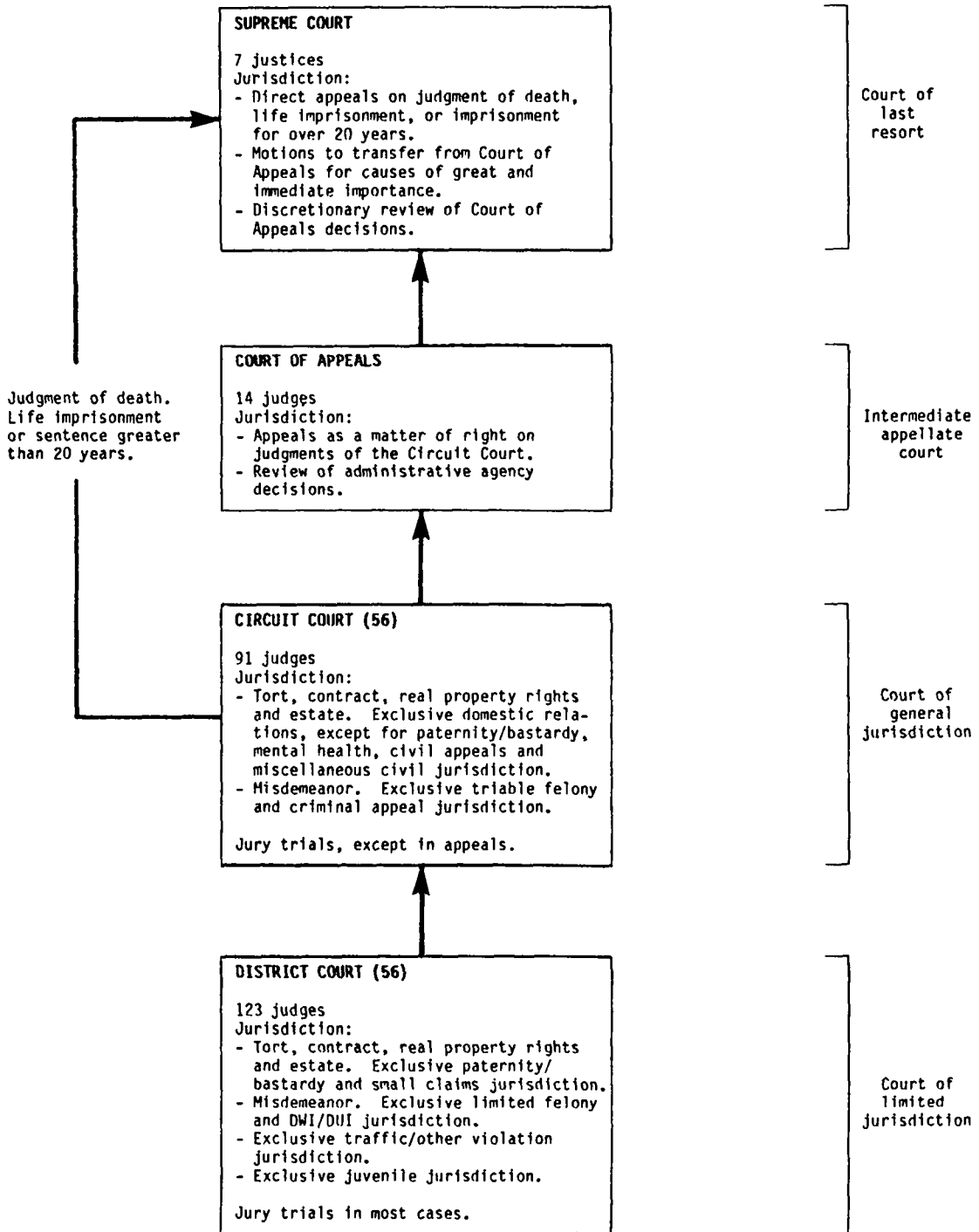
Indicates transfer of cases.

# KANSAS COURT SYSTEM, 1981



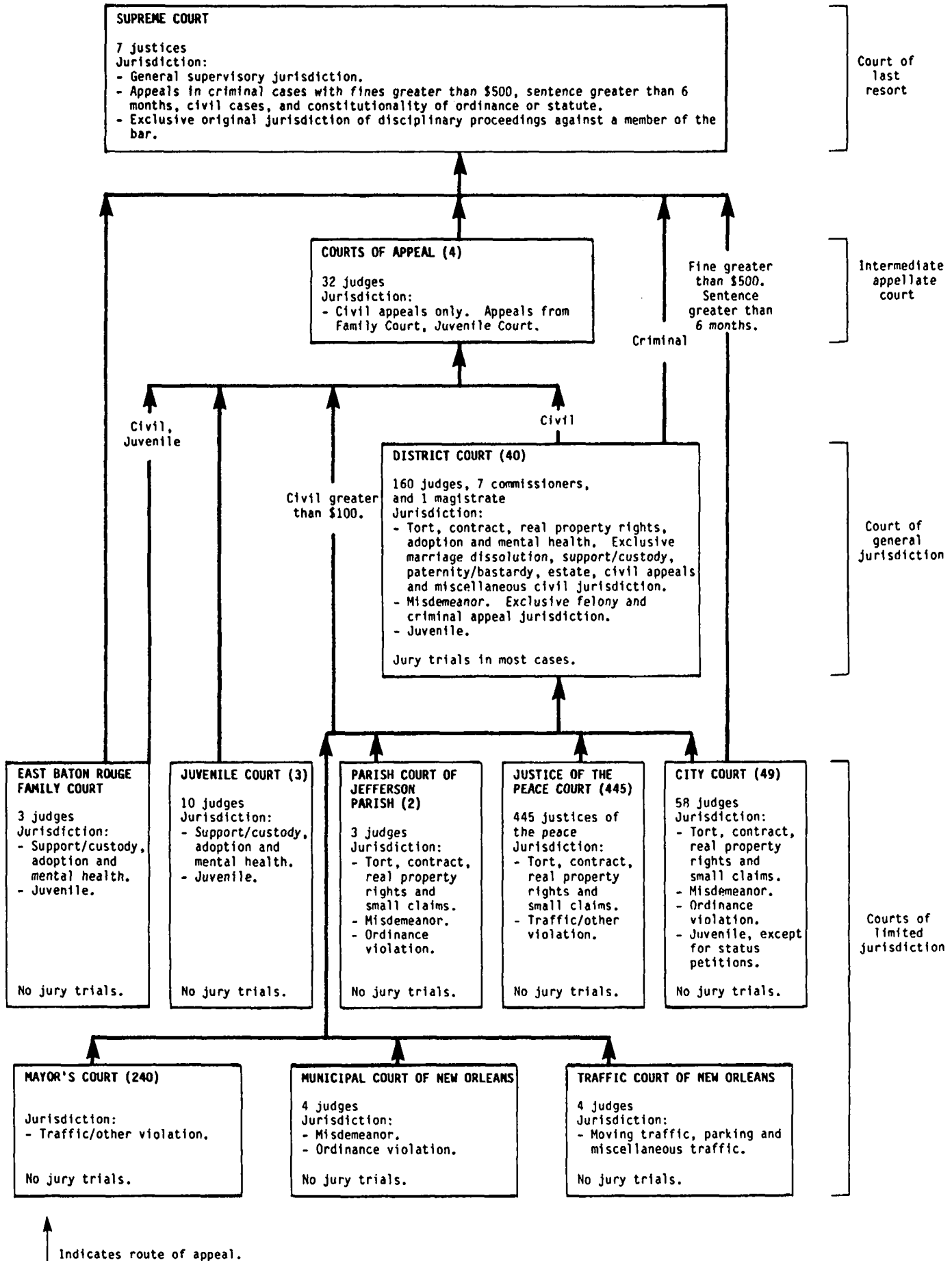
↑  
Indicates route of appeal.

# KENTUCKY COURT SYSTEM, 1981



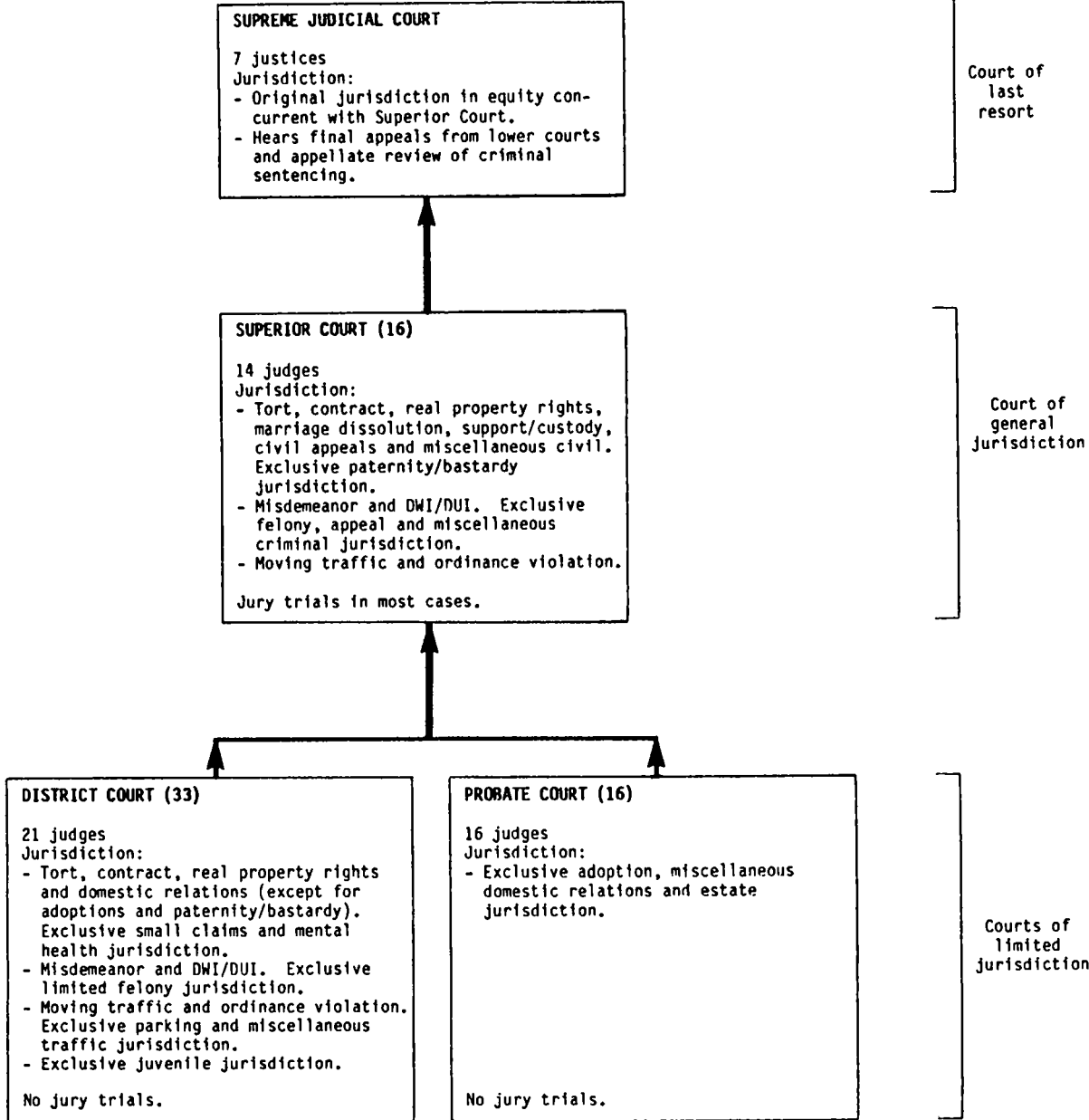
↑ Indicates route of appeal.

# LOUISIANA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



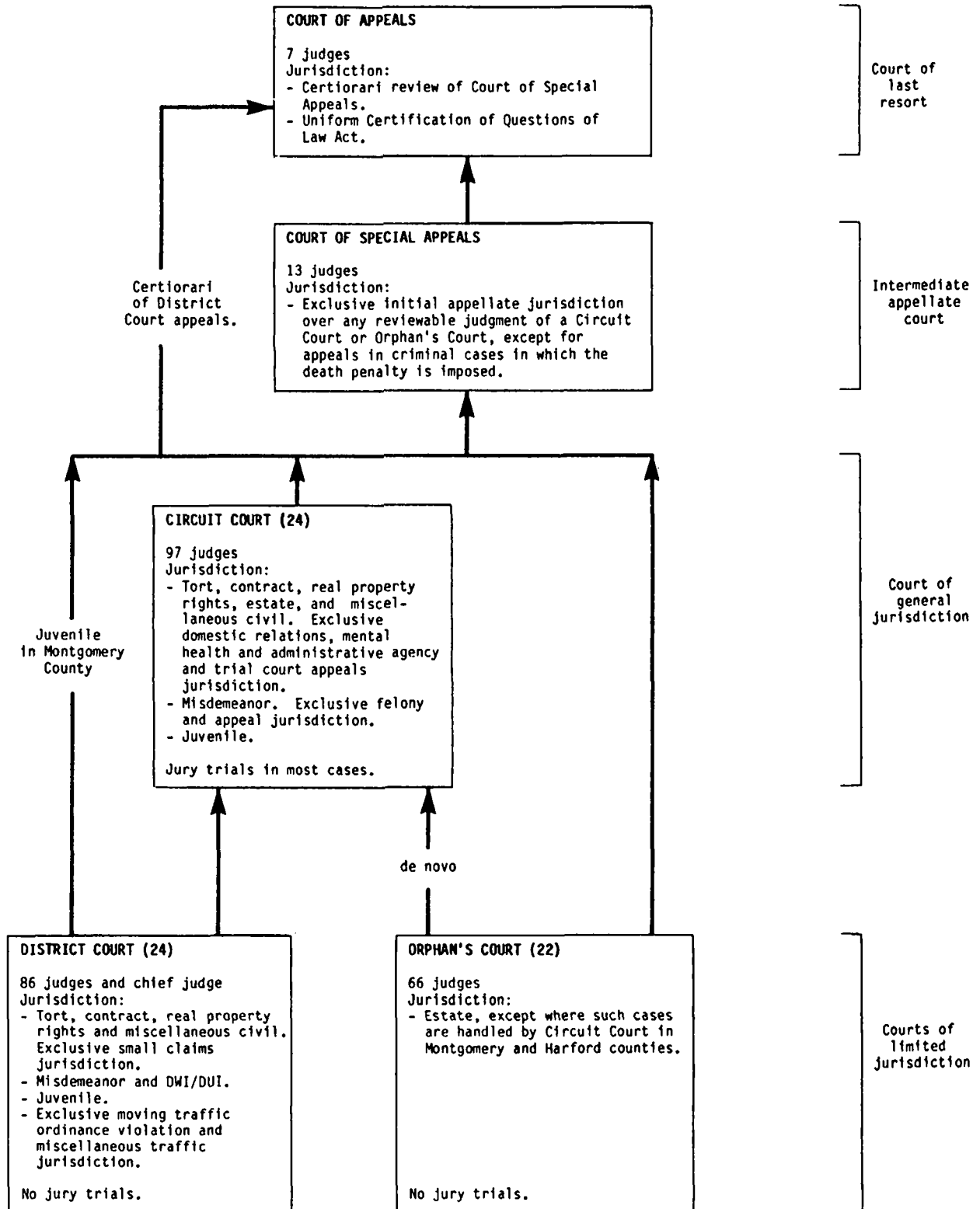


# MAINE COURT SYSTEM, 1981



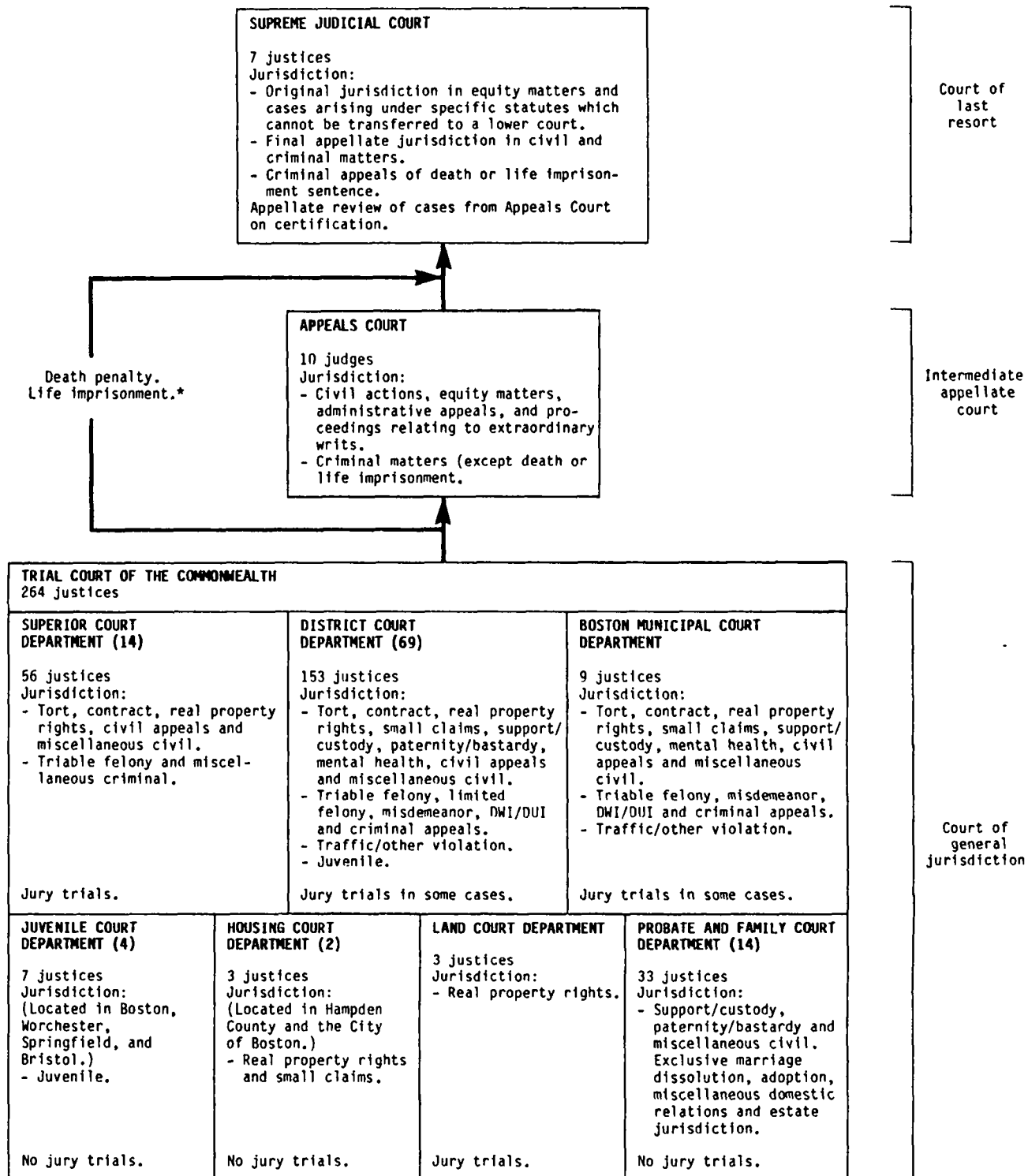
↑ Indicates route of appeal.  
There is an Administrative Court which hears only complaints that are heard by administrative agencies in other states.

# MARYLAND COURT SYSTEM, 1981



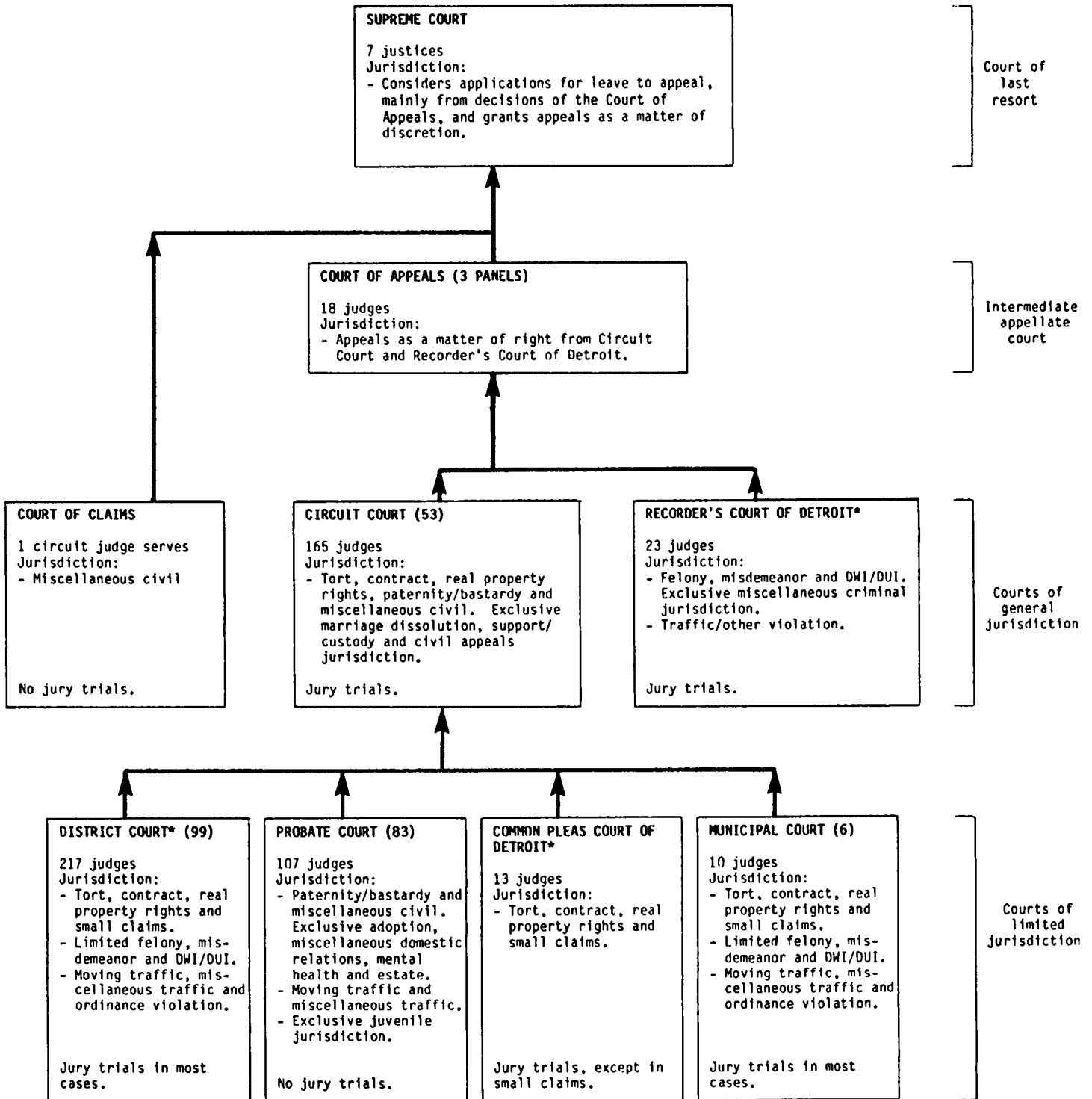
↑ Indicates route of appeal.

# MASSACHUSETTS COURT SYSTEM, 1981



\*Appeals generally may be taken to either the Appeals Court or the Supreme Judicial Court with the Supreme Judicial Court deciding which court will hear each case.

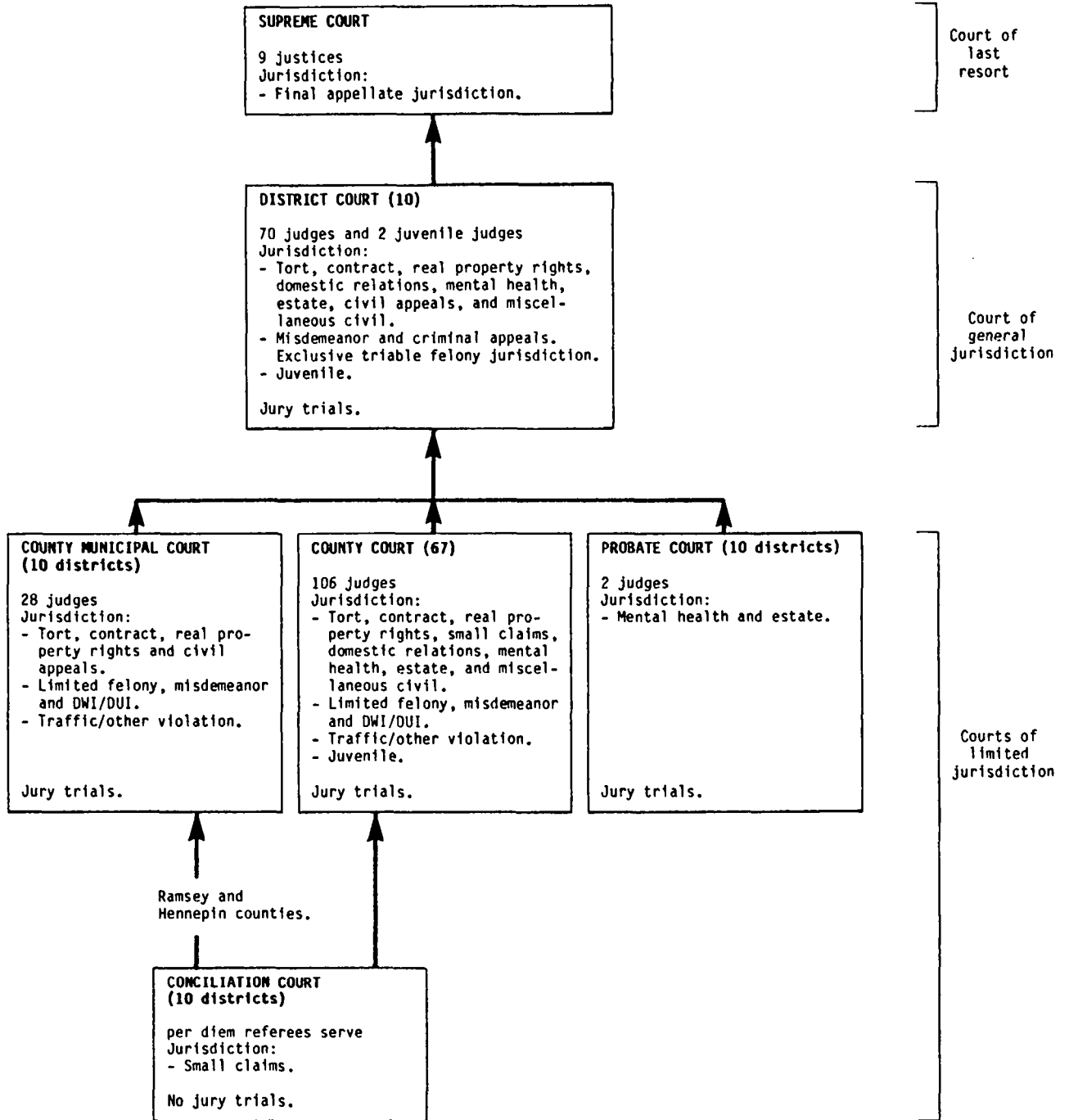
# MICHIGAN COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

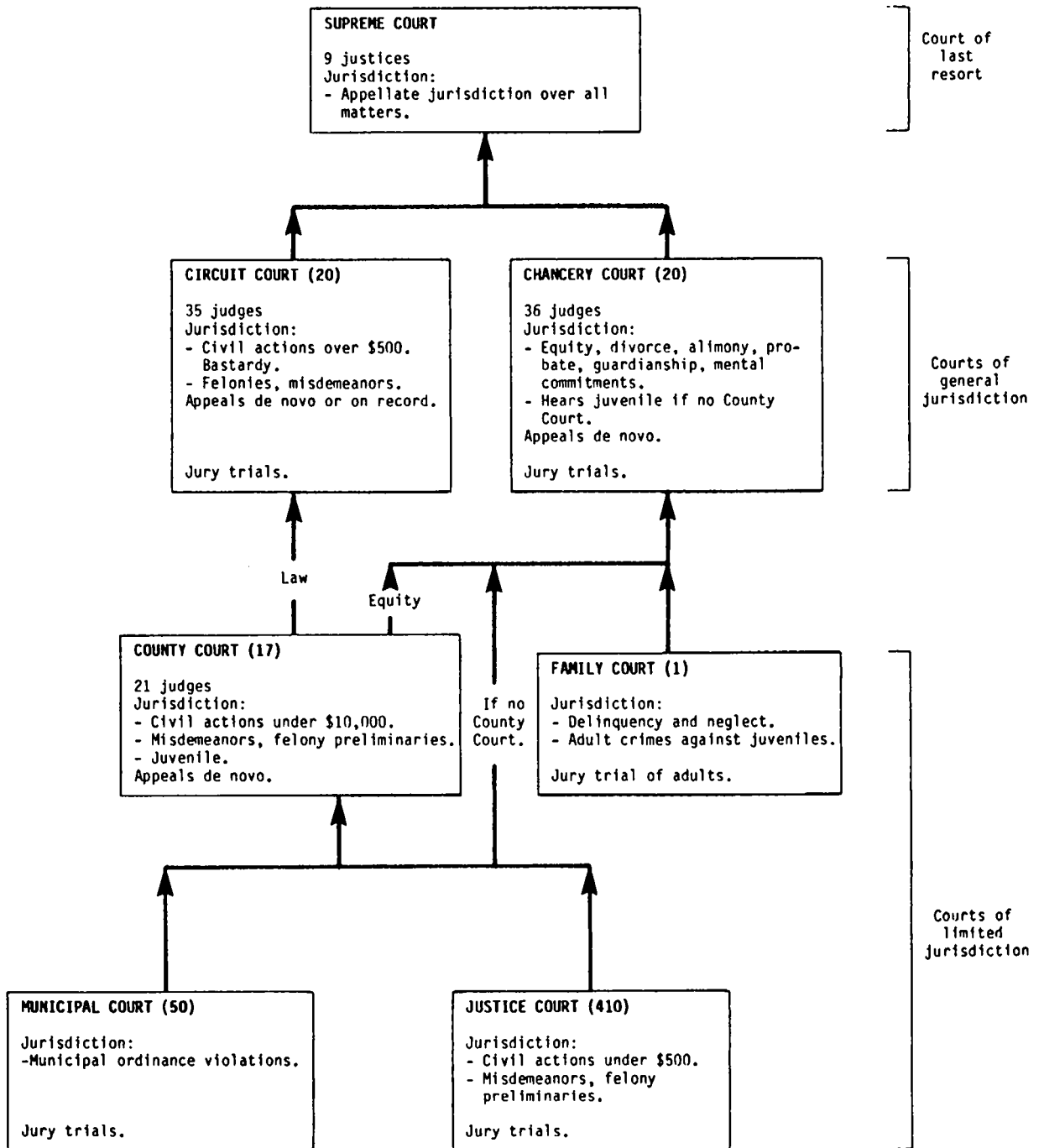
\*In September, 1981, the Recorder's Court of Detroit and the Common Pleas Court of Detroit were combined with the 36th District Court.

# MINNESOTA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

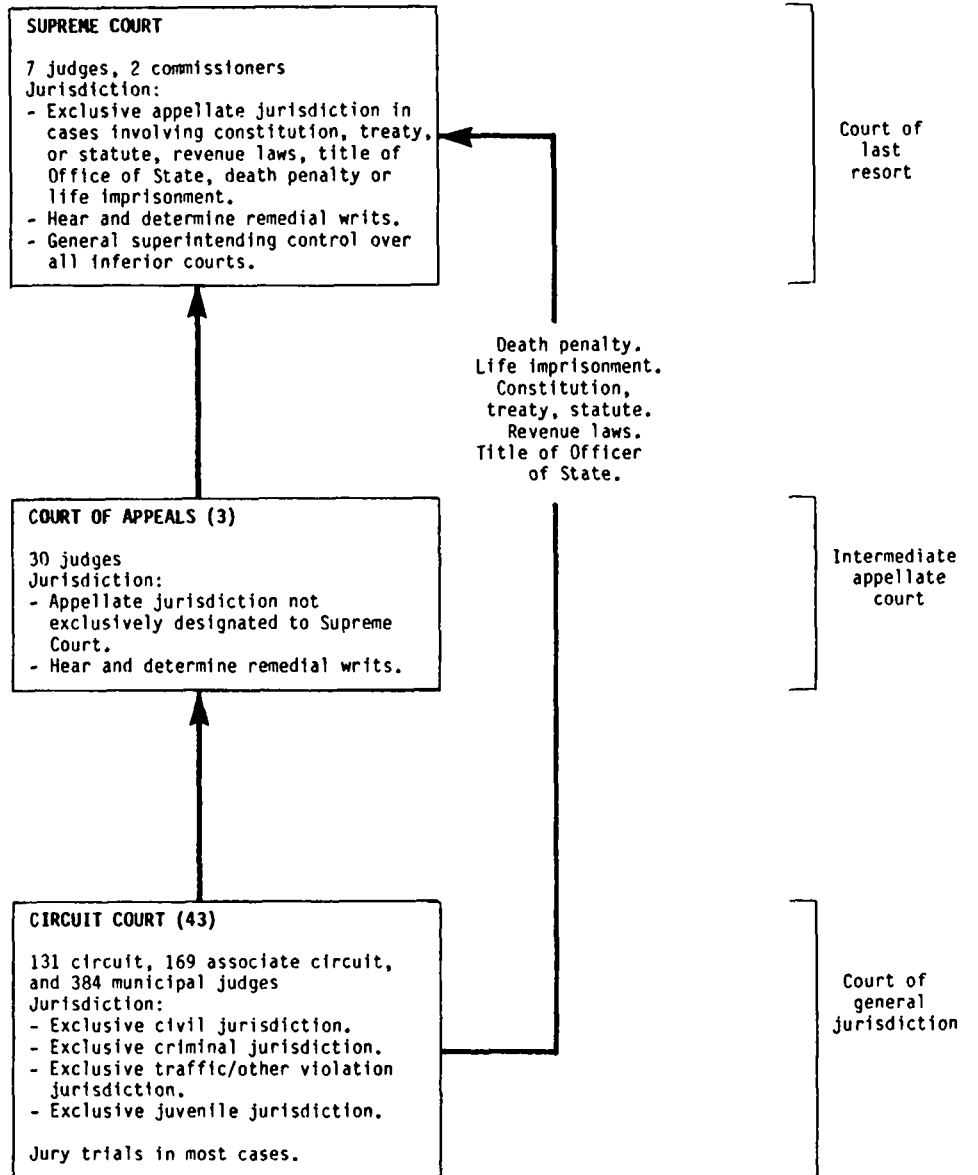
# MISSISSIPPI COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

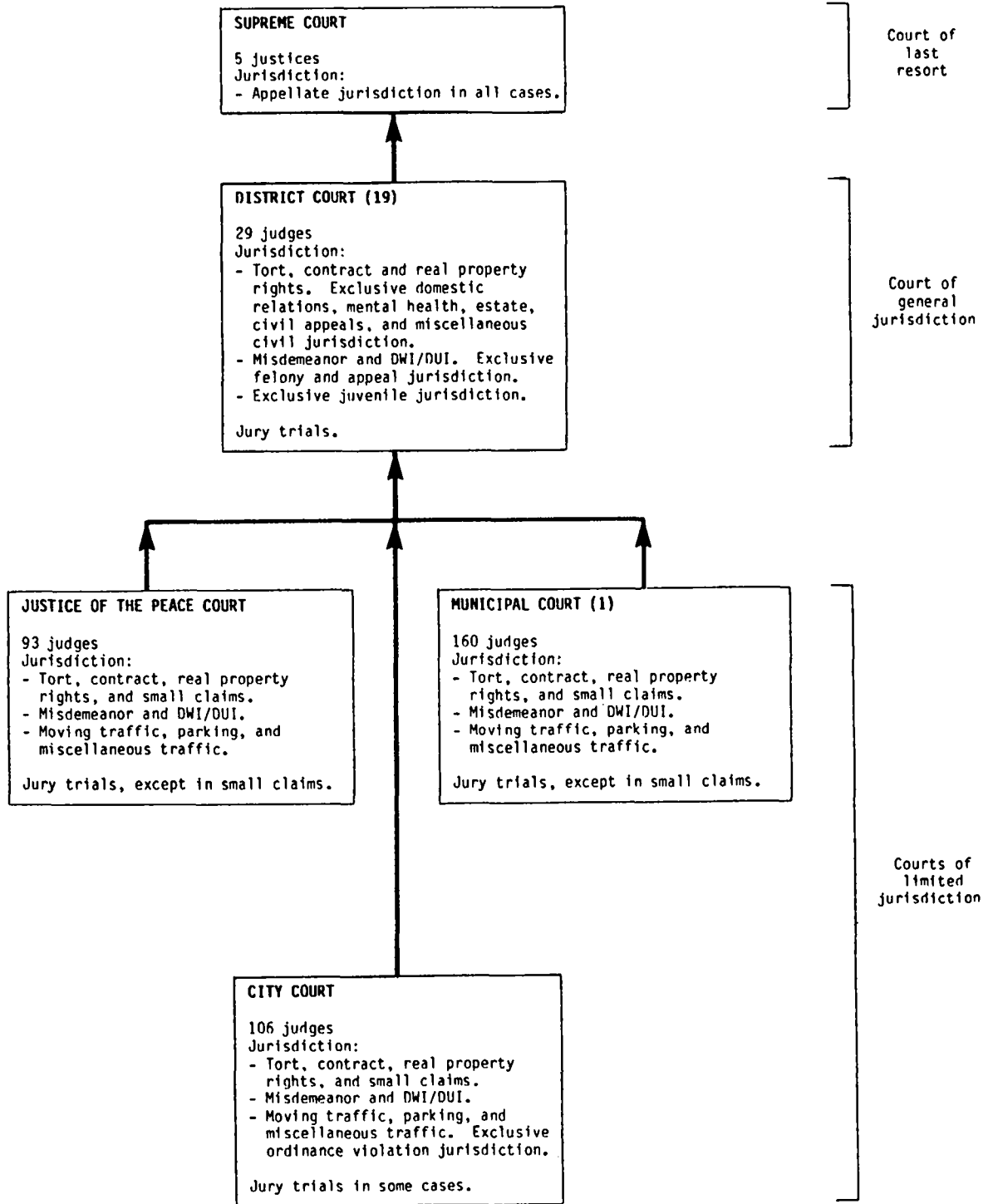
There are no trial court data available, and the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting was not completed by Mississippi; therefore, the terminology used in this court system chart may not reflect CSIM terms as used in the other states' court system charts.

# MISSOURI COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

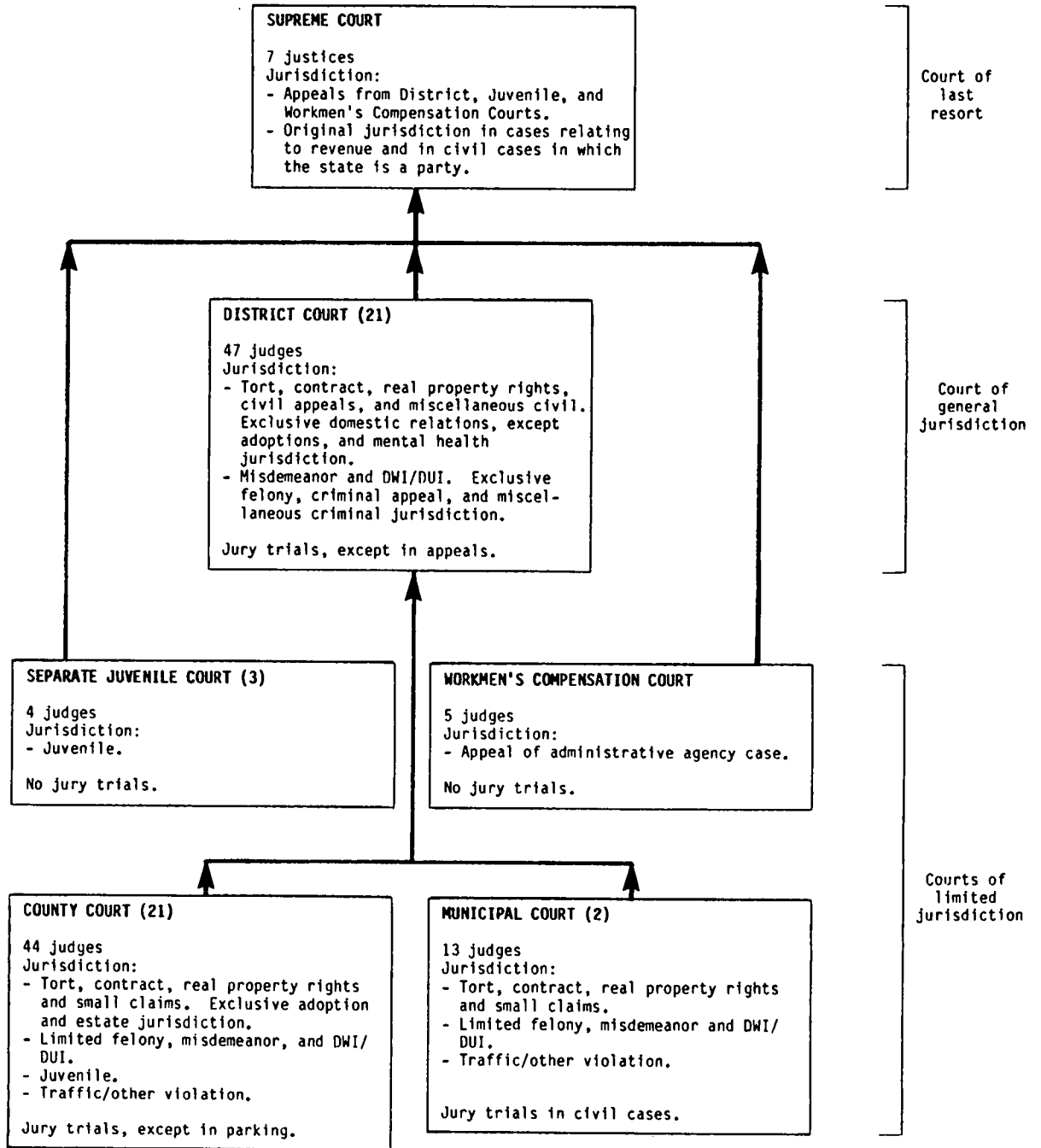
# MONTANA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑  
Indicates route of appeal.

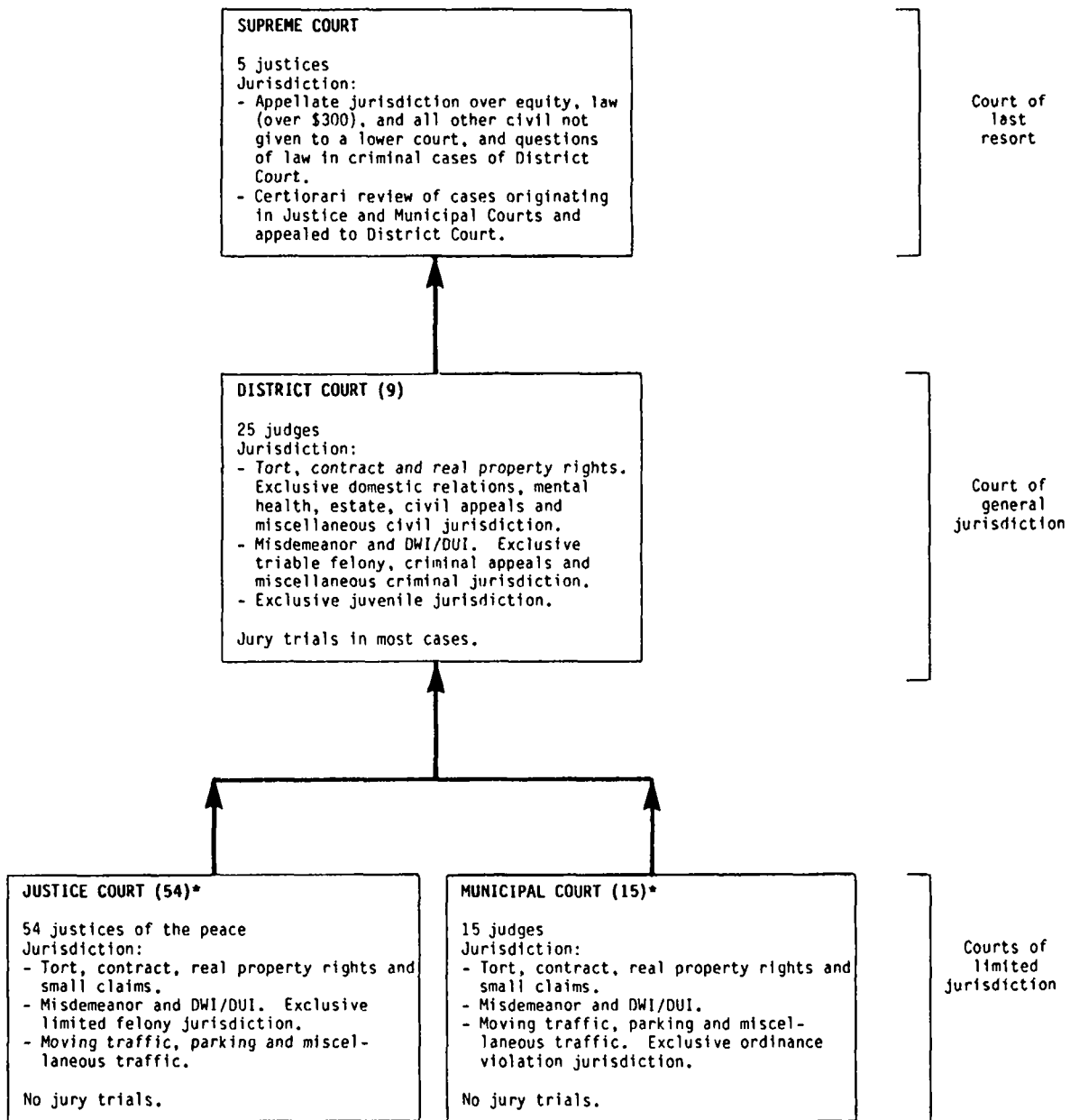


# NEBRASKA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



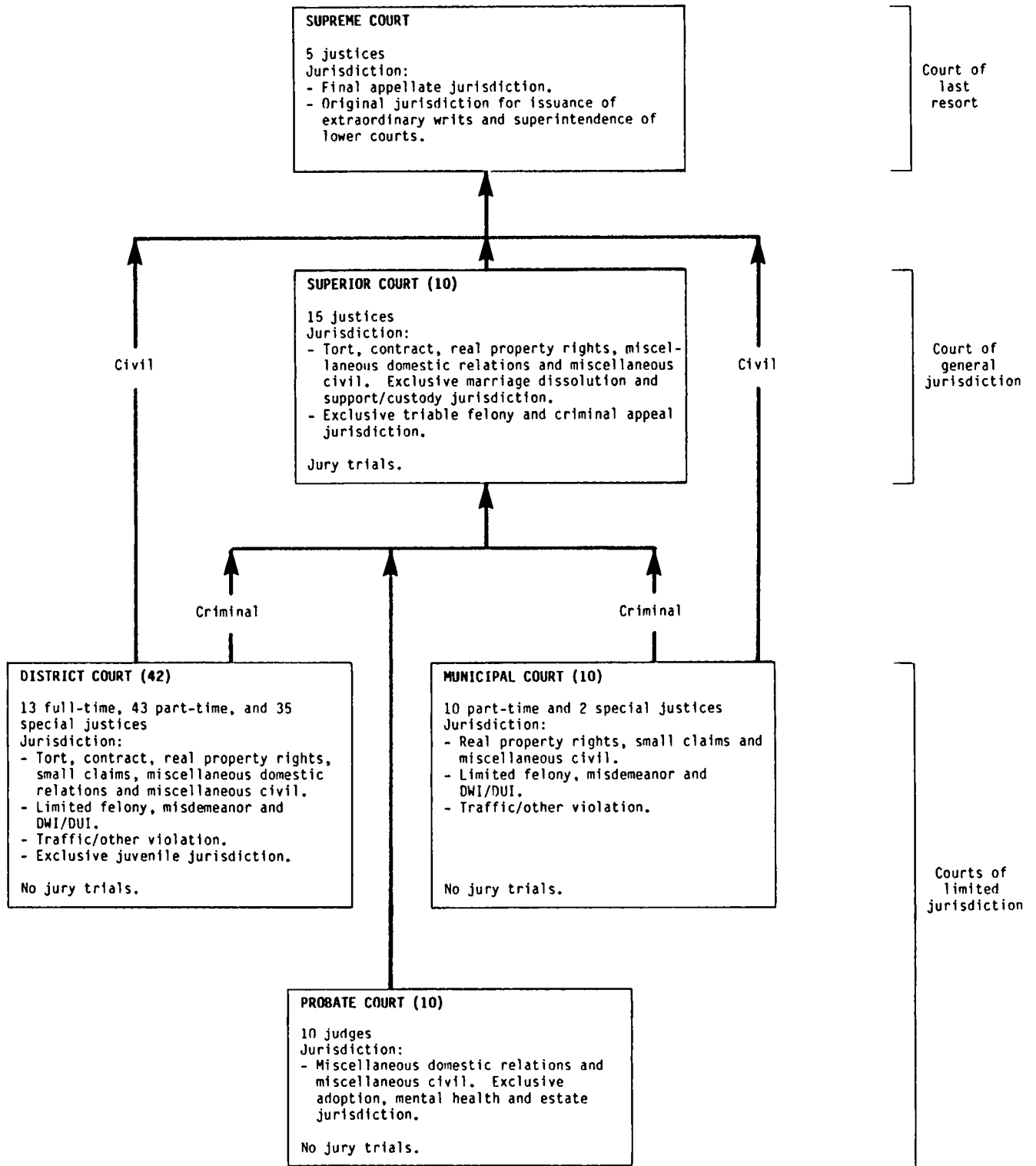
↑ Indicates route of appeal.

# NEVADA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



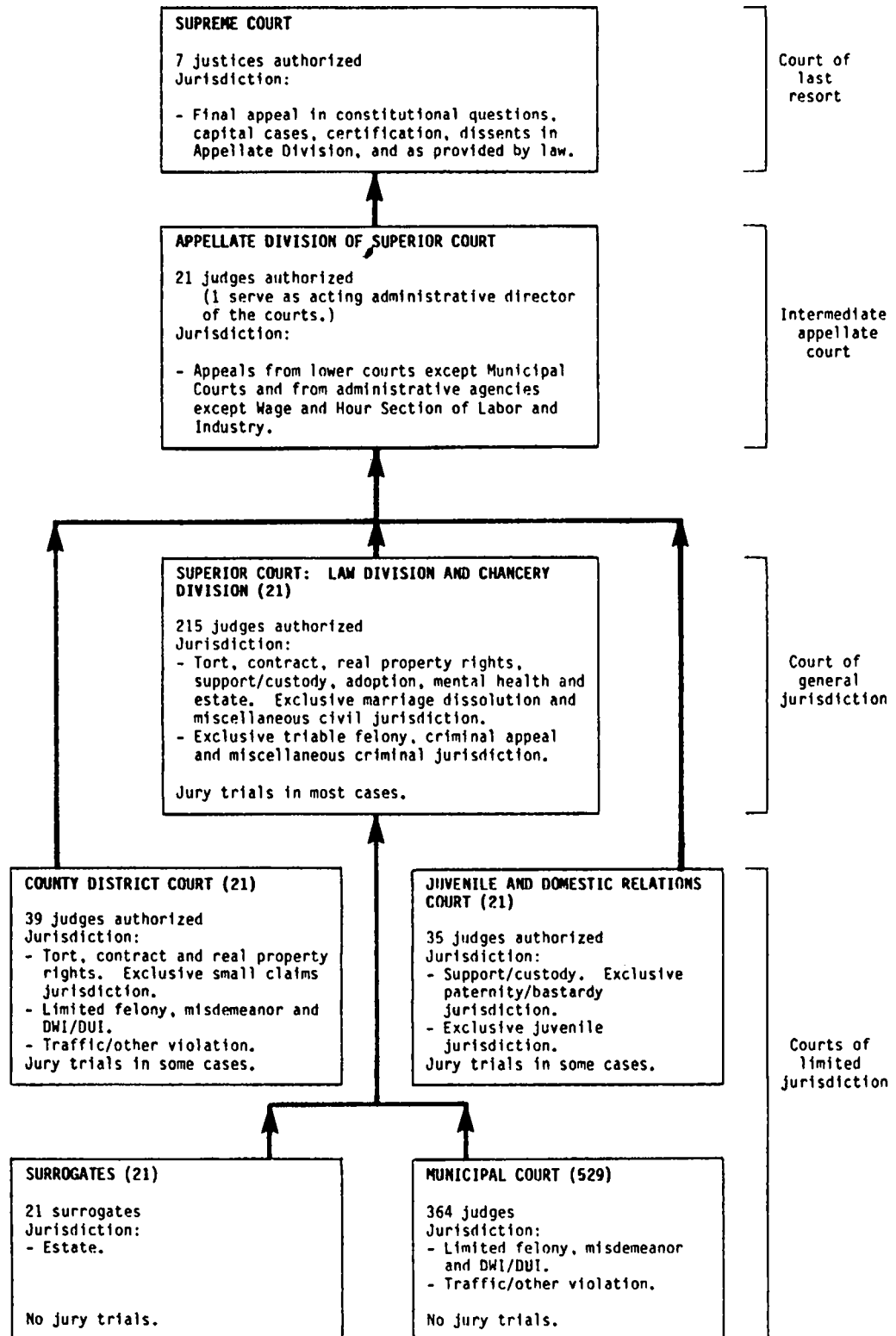
↑ Indicates route of appeal.  
\*Nine justices of the peace also serve as Municipal Court judges.

# NEW HAMPSHIRE COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

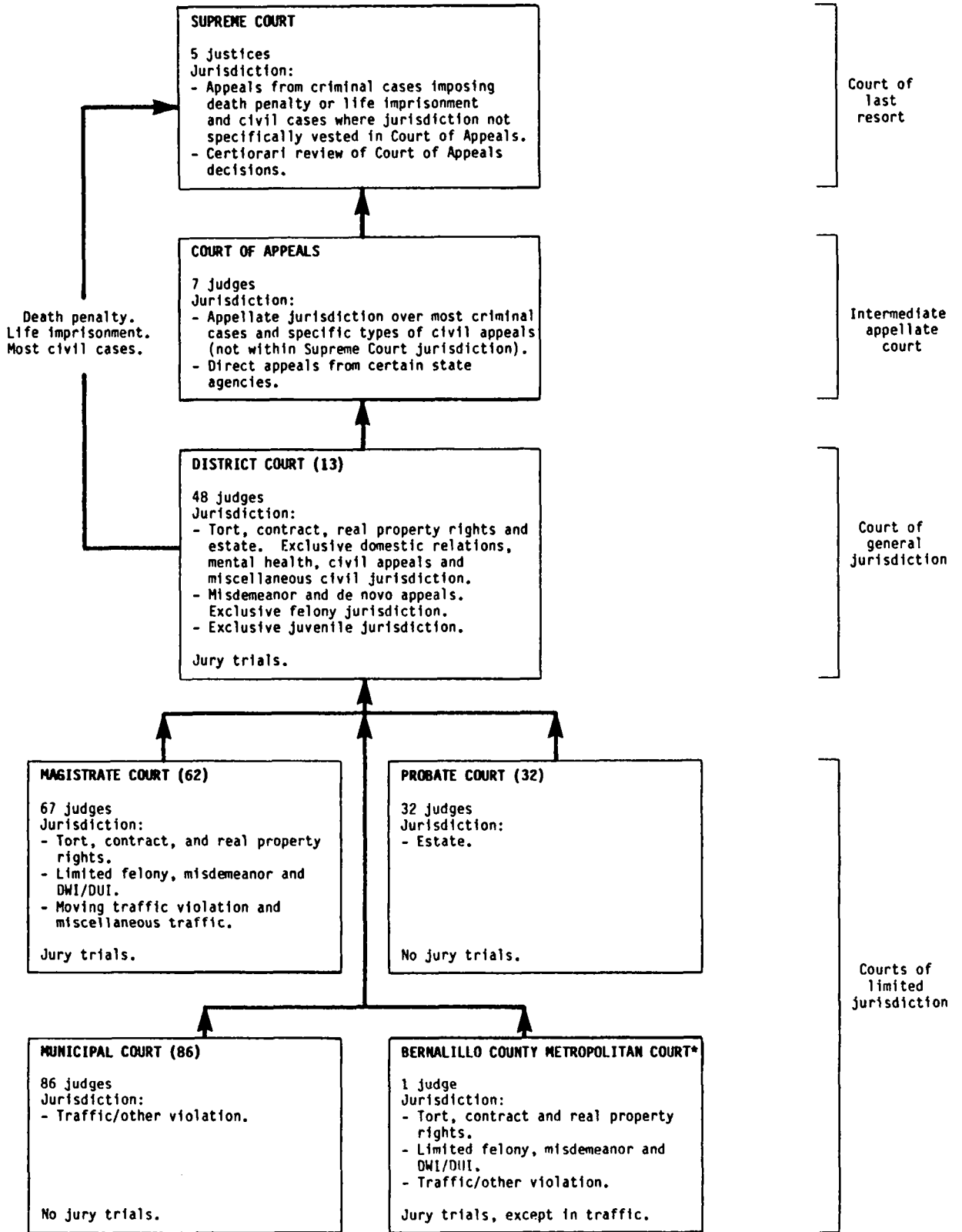
# NEW JERSEY COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

There is a New Jersey Tax Court which hears only complaints that are heard by administrative agencies in other states.

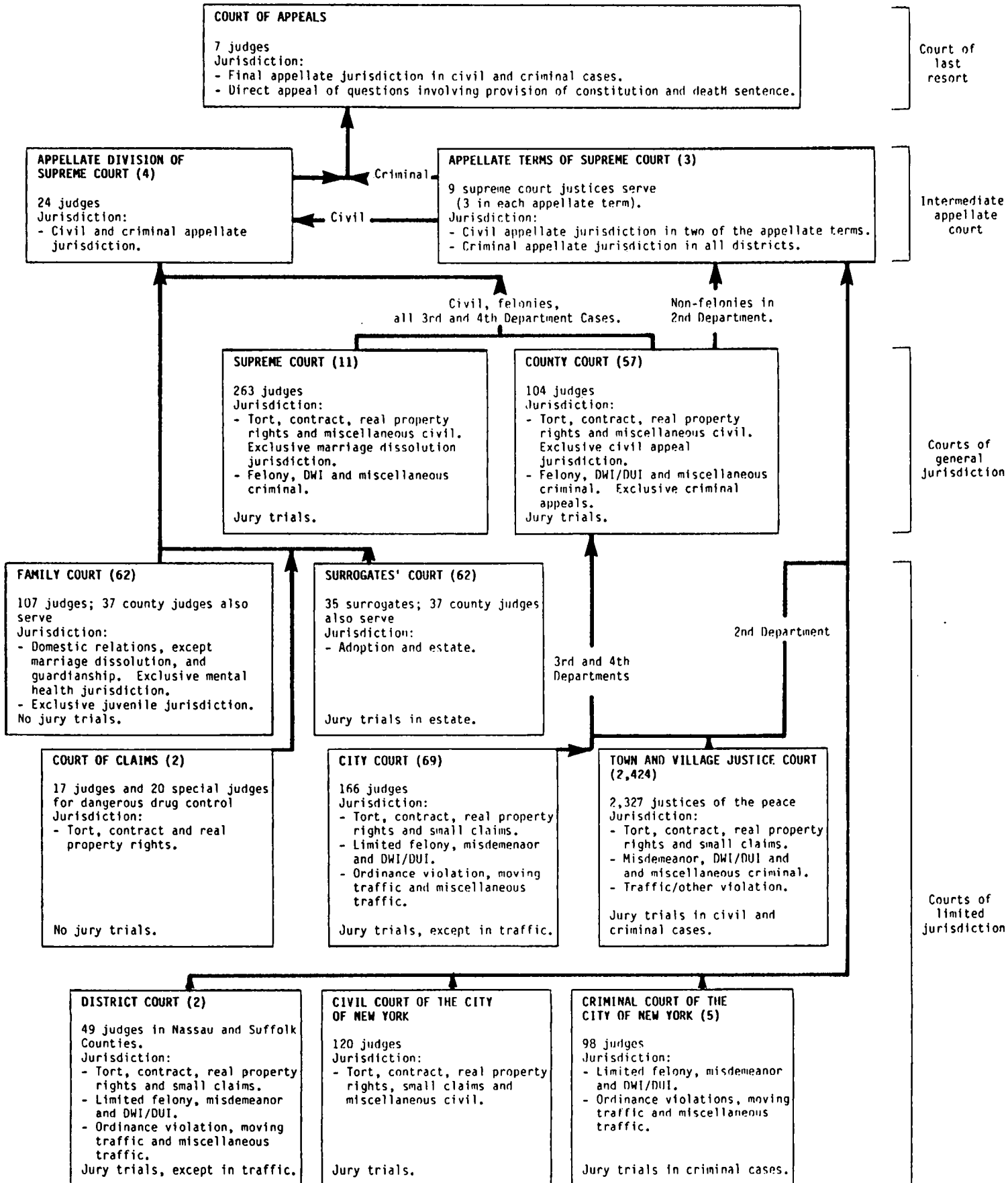
# NEW MEXICO COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

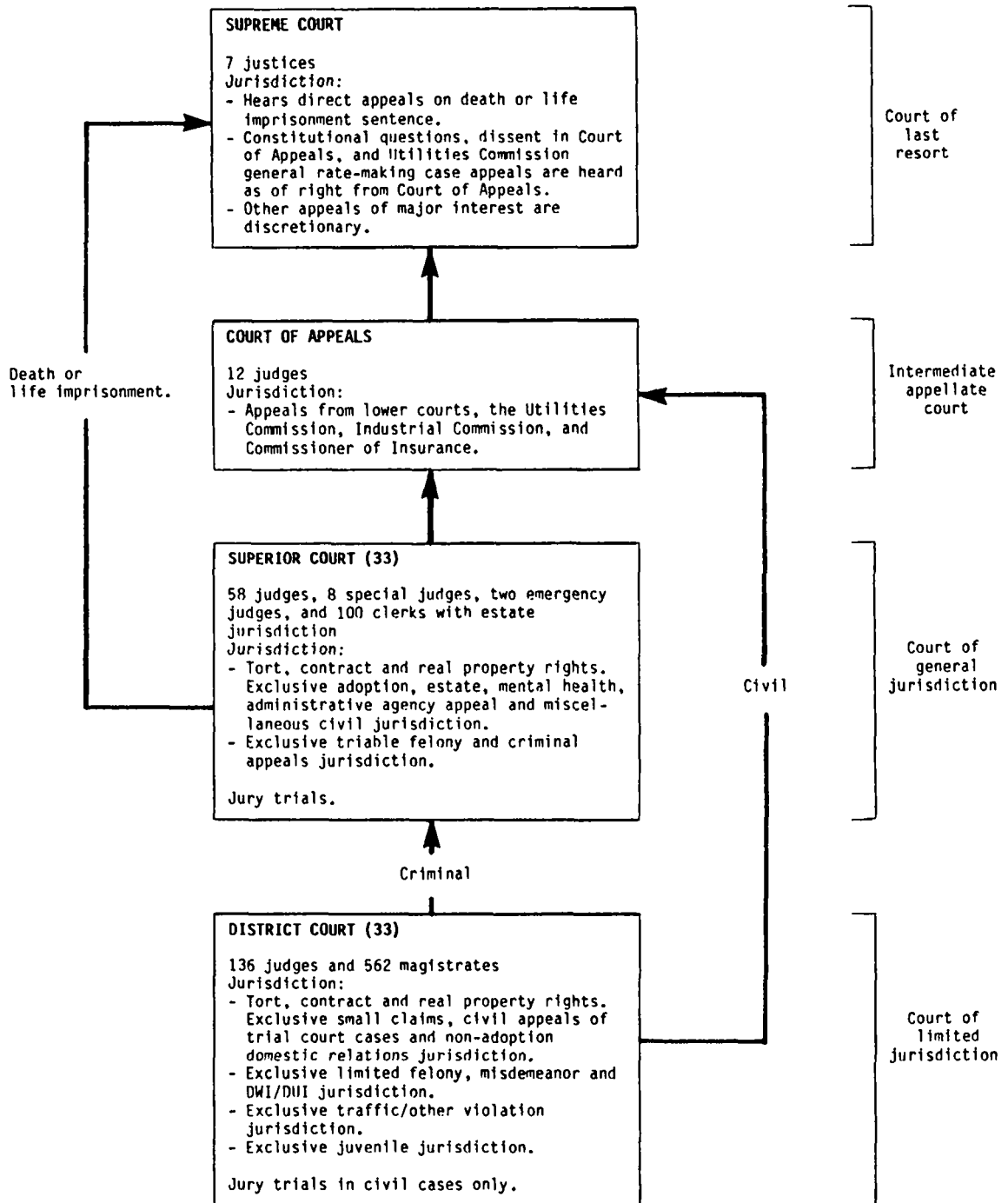
\*Court established 7/1/80.

# NEW YORK COURT SYSTEM, 1981



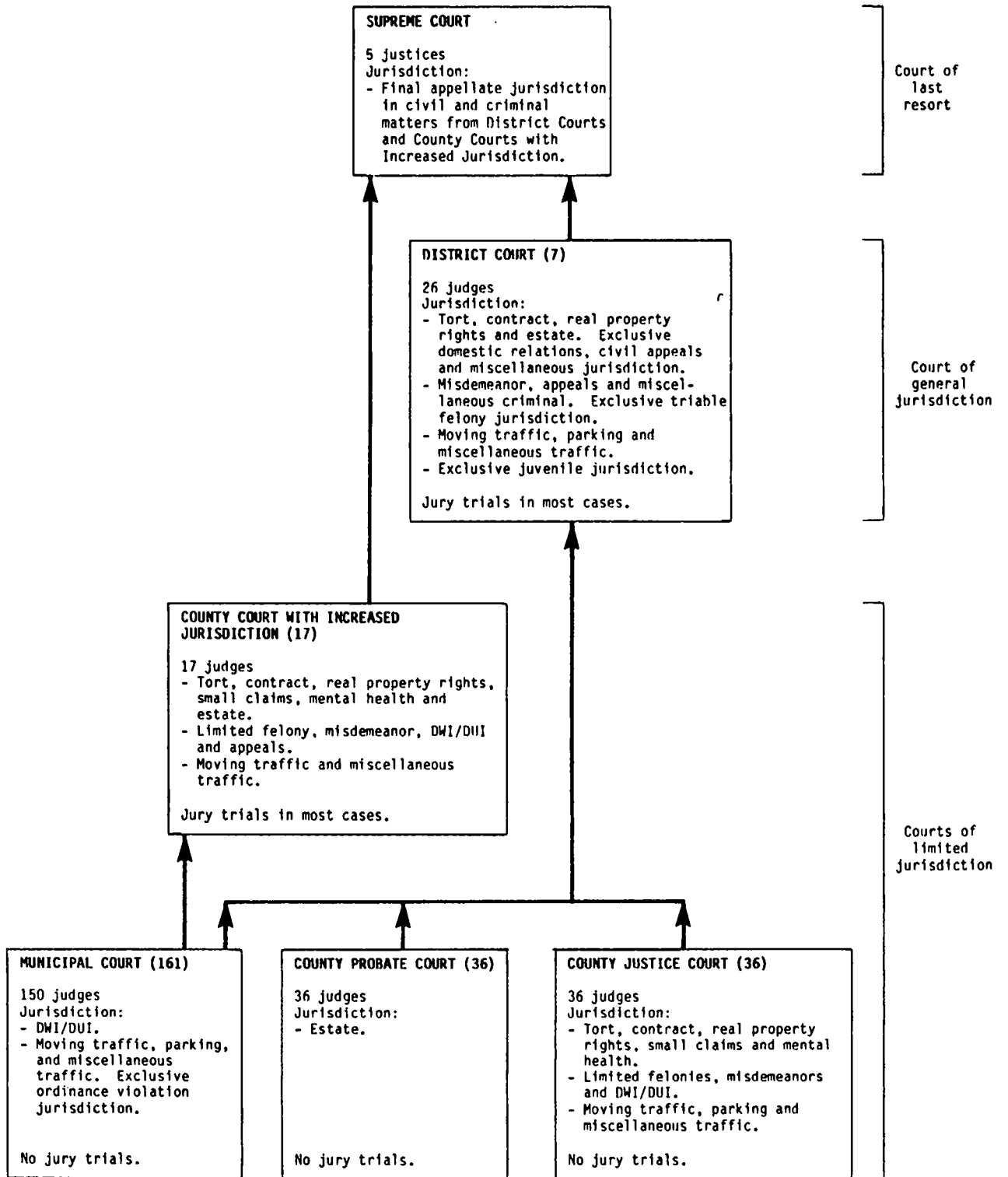
↑ Indicates route of appeal.

# NORTH CAROLINA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

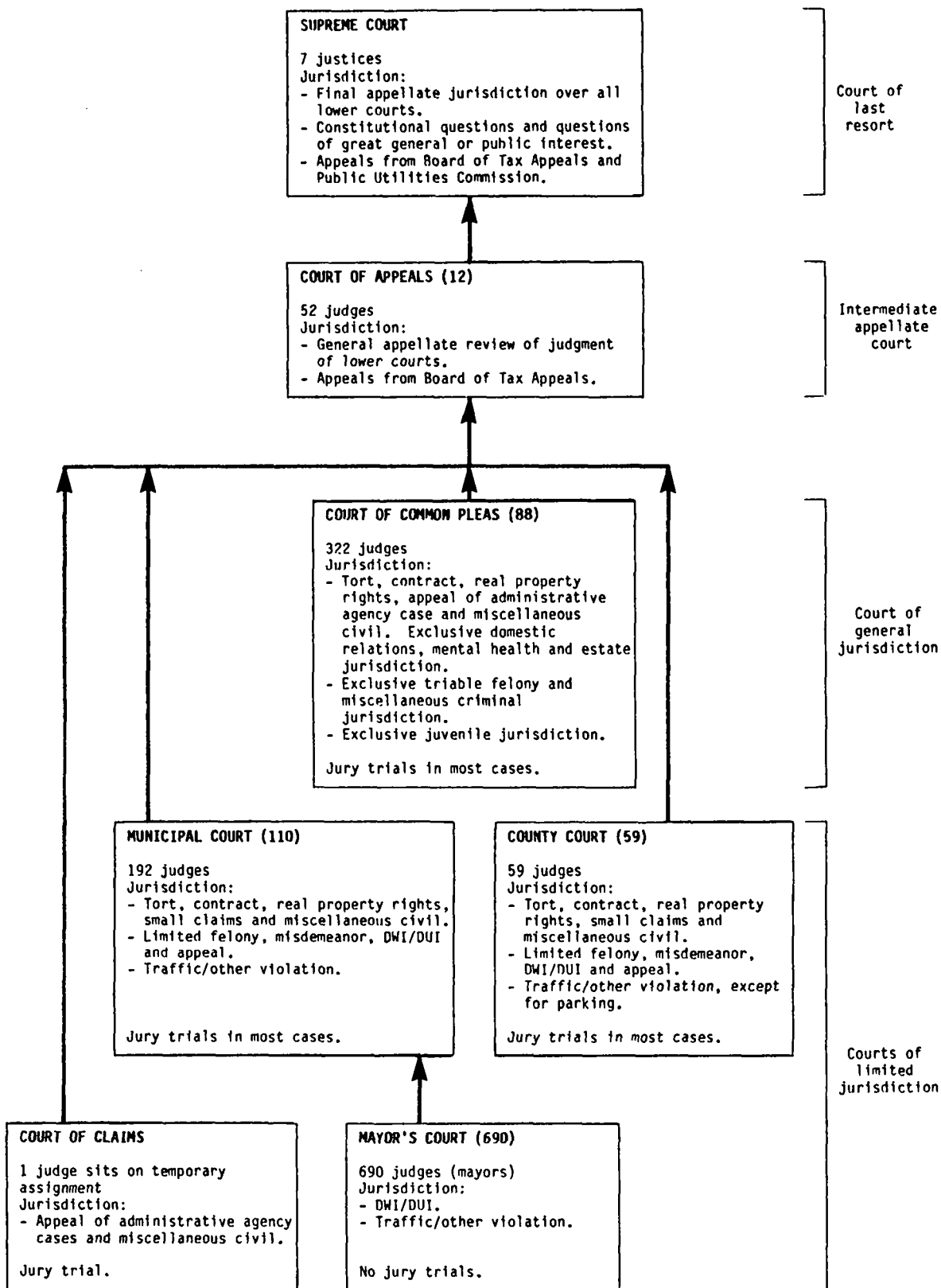
# NORTH DAKOTA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

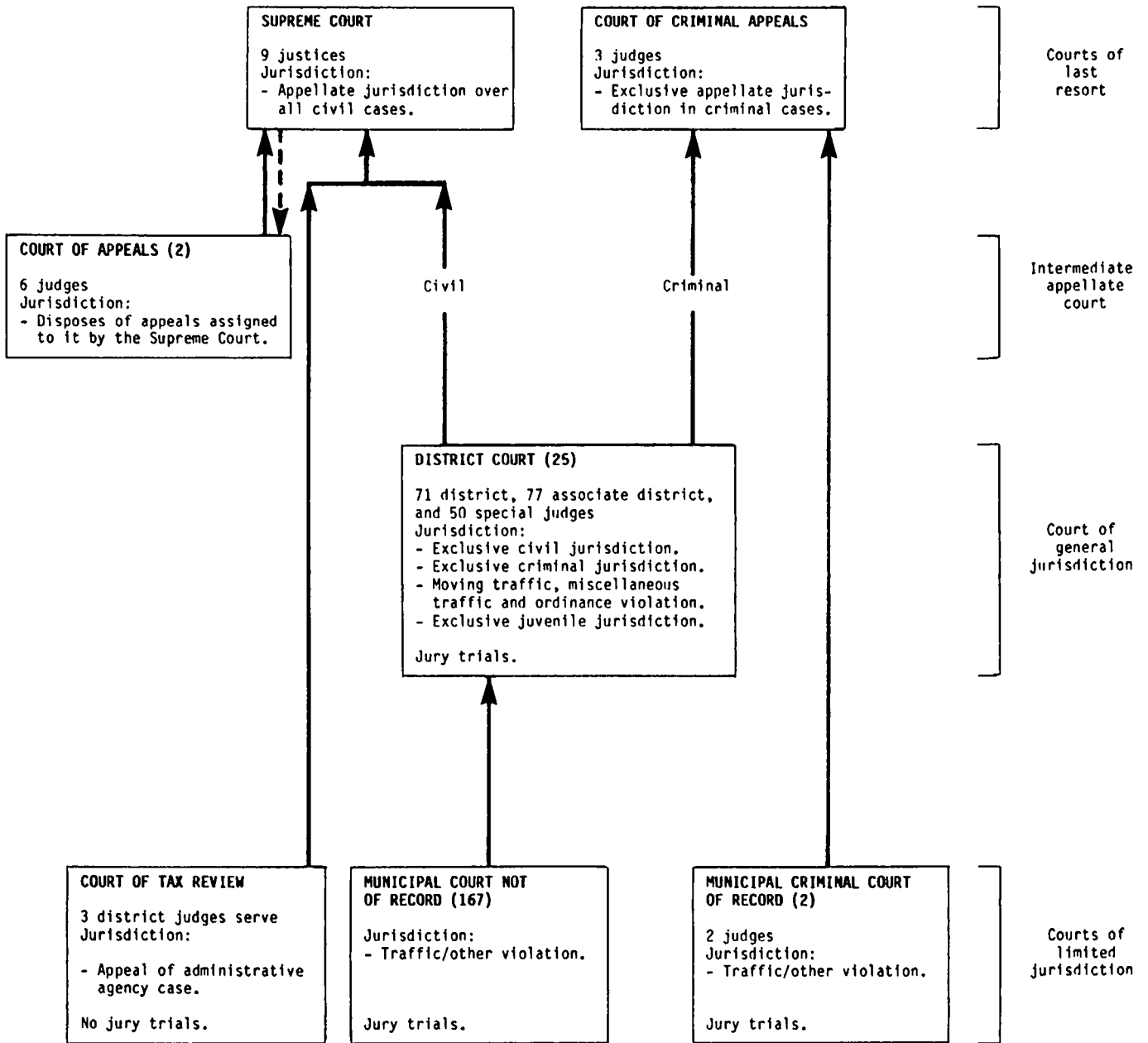


# OHIO COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

# OKLAHOMA COURT SYSTEM, 1981

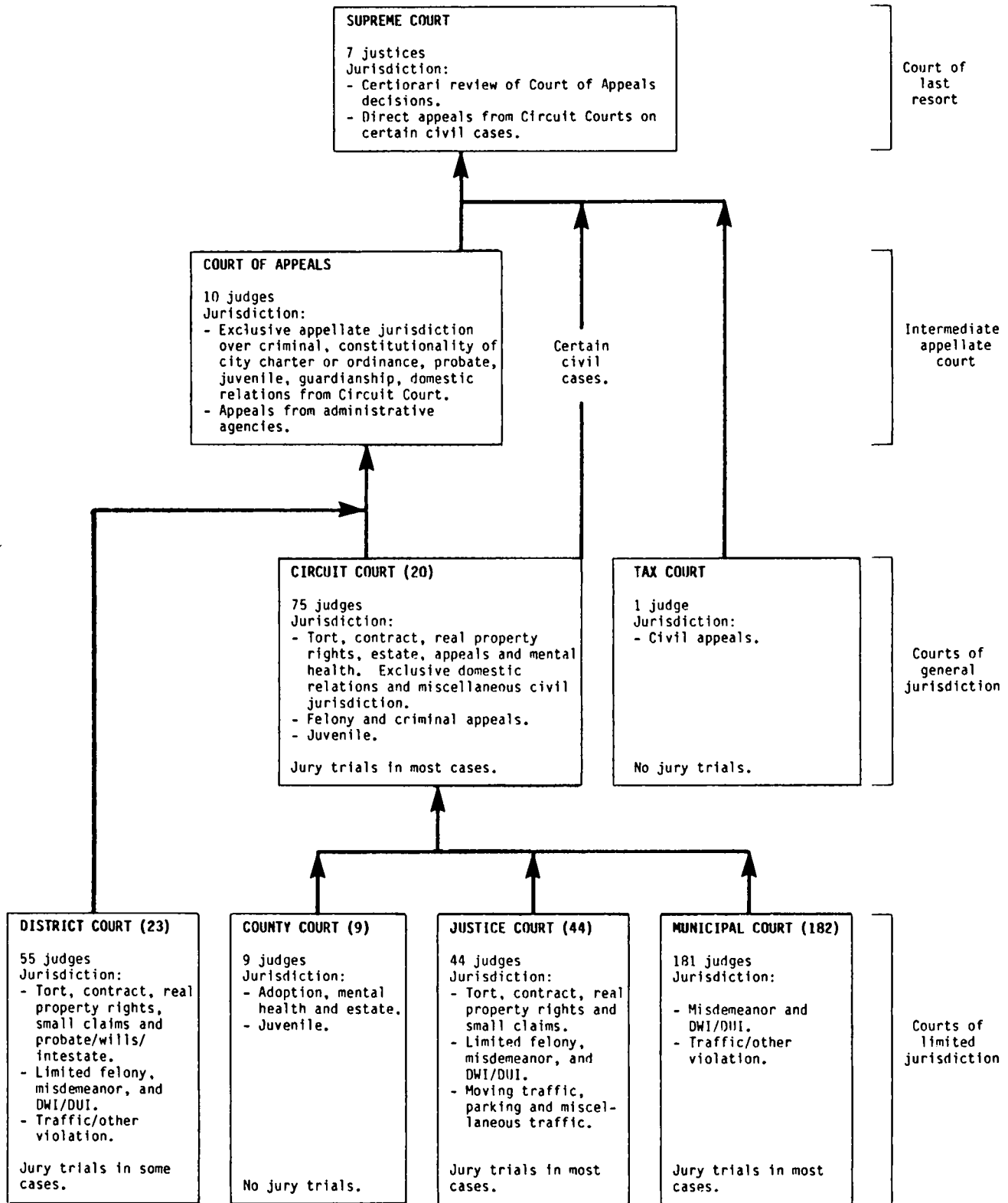


↑ Indicates route of appeal.

↑ Indicates assignment of cases.

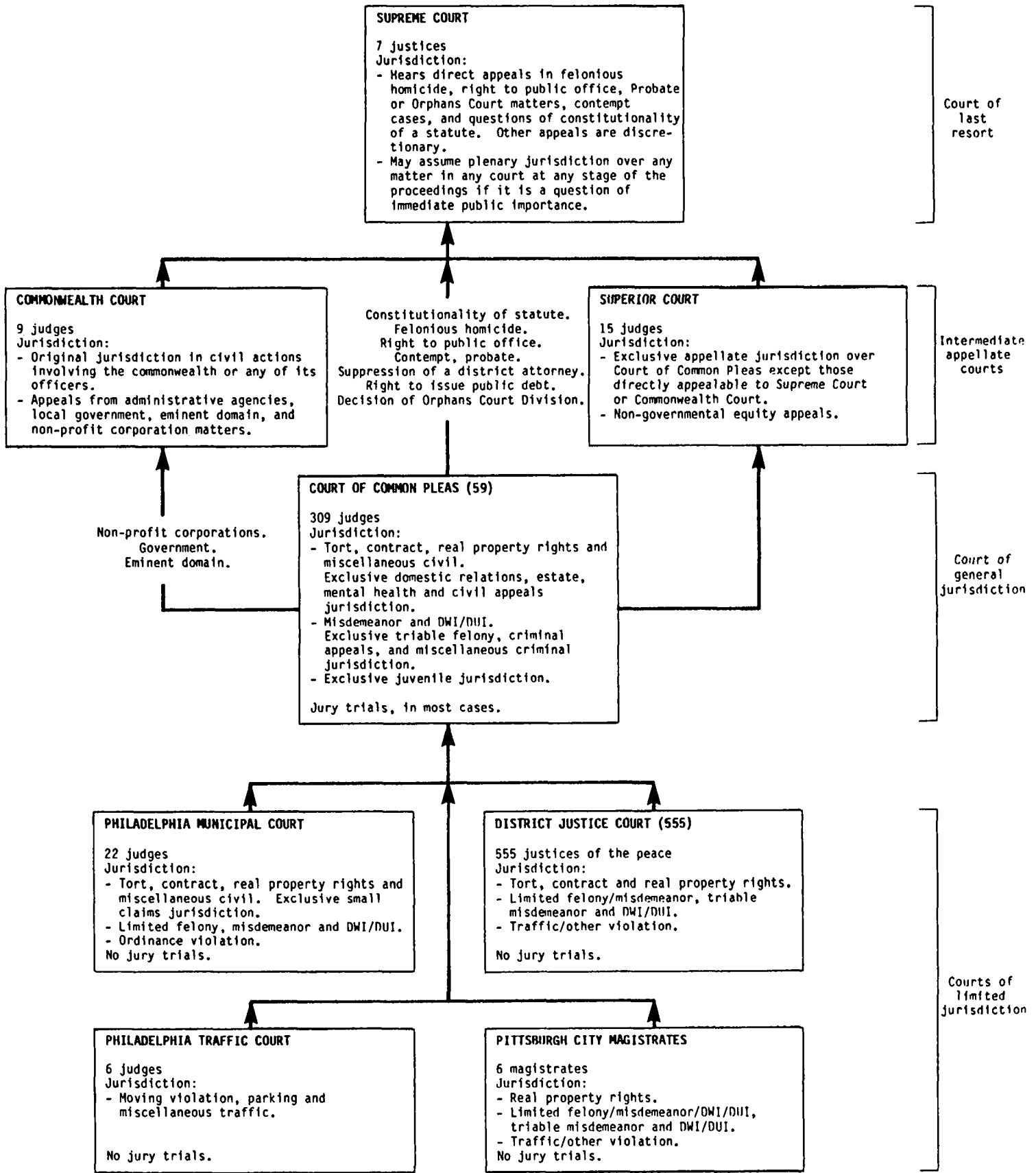
There is a Workers' Compensation Court which hears only complaints that are heard by administrative agencies in other states.

# OREGON COURT SYSTEM, 1981

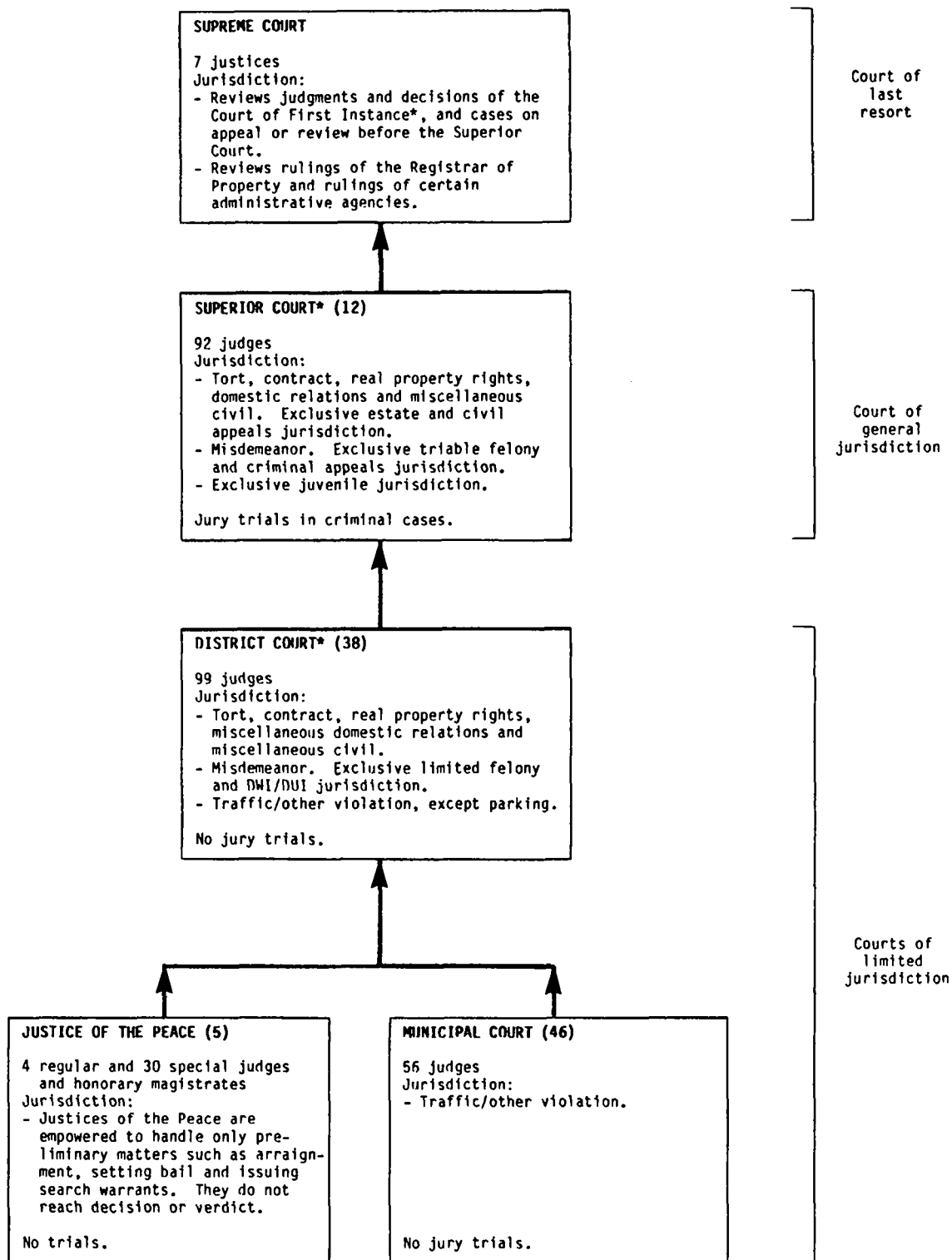


↑ Indicates route of appeal.

# PENNSYLVANIA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



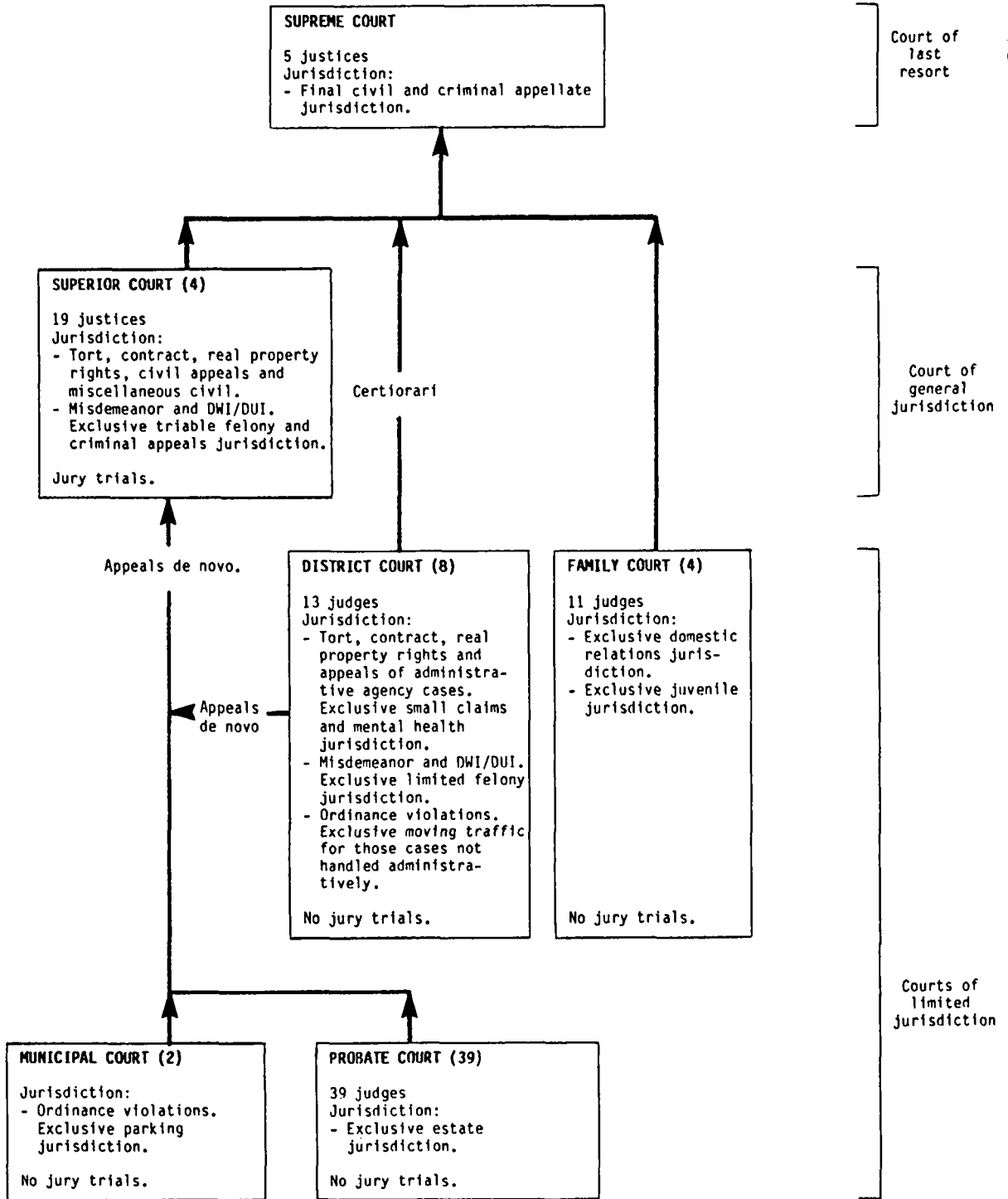
# PUERTO RICO COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

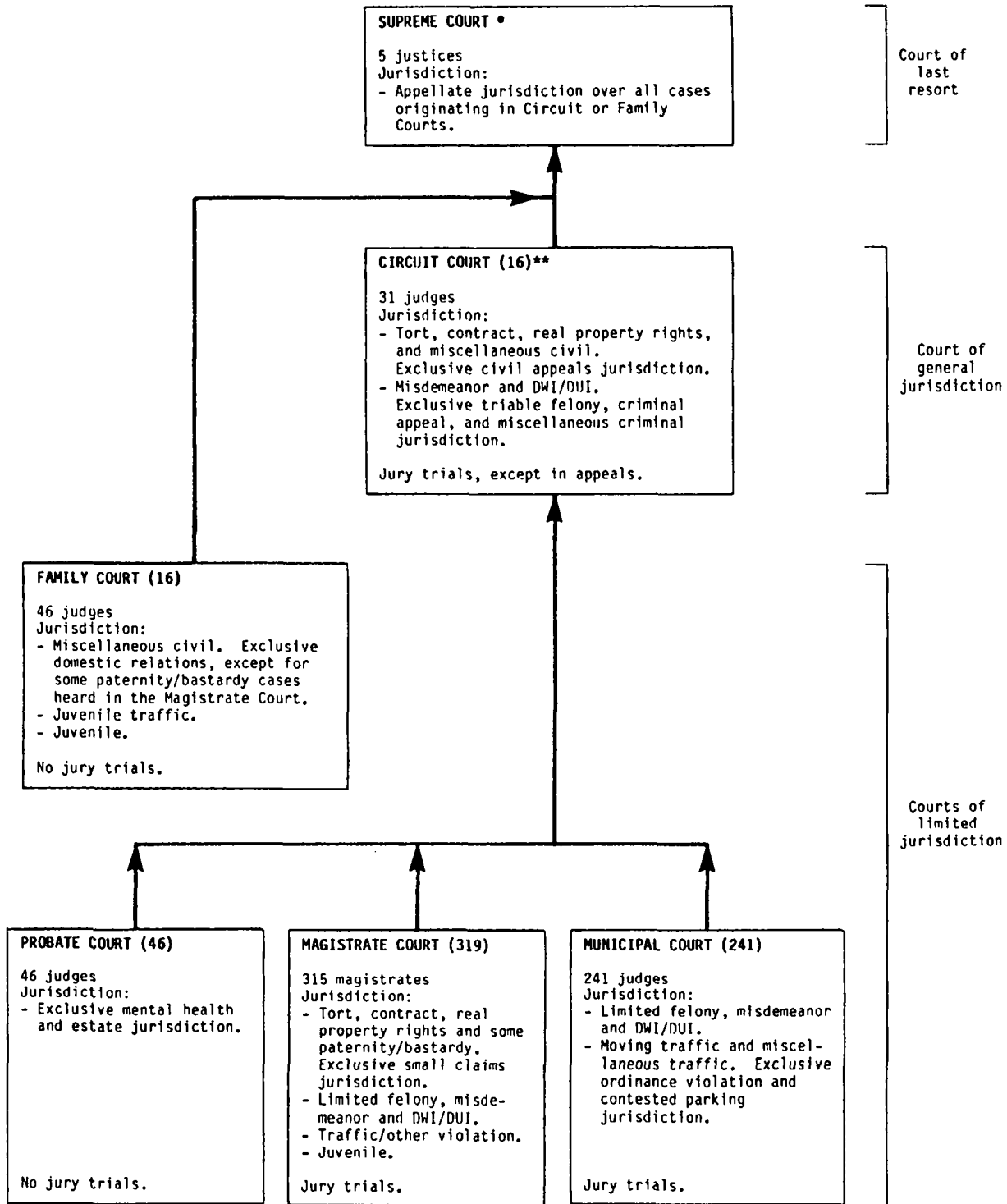
\* The Court of First Instance consists of two divisions: the Superior Court and the District Court.

# RHODE ISLAND COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑  
Indicates route of appeal.

# SOUTH CAROLINA COURT SYSTEM, 1981

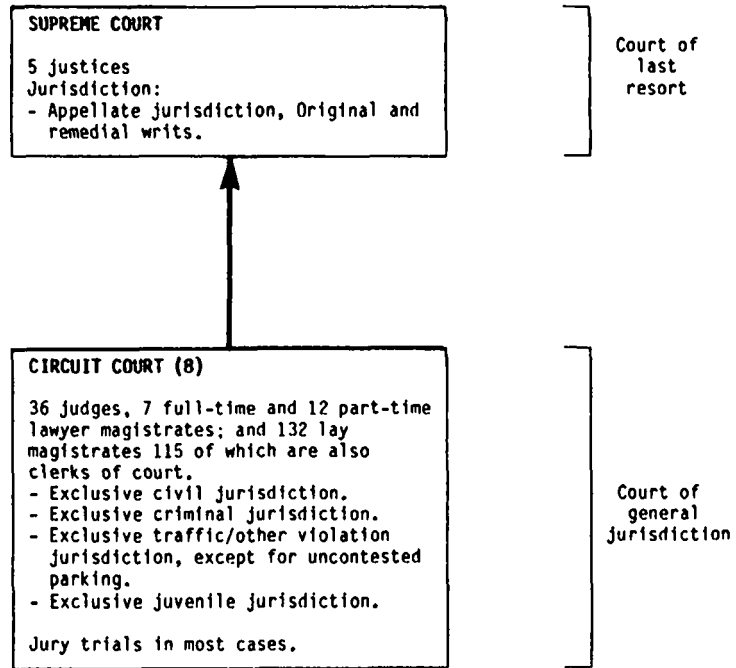


↑ Indicates route of appeal.

\* A Court of Appeals (intermediate appellate court) was authorized during 1981, but will not be implemented until September, 1983.

\*\*Eighteen Masters-in-equity hear some limited equity matters assigned to them by the Circuit Court.

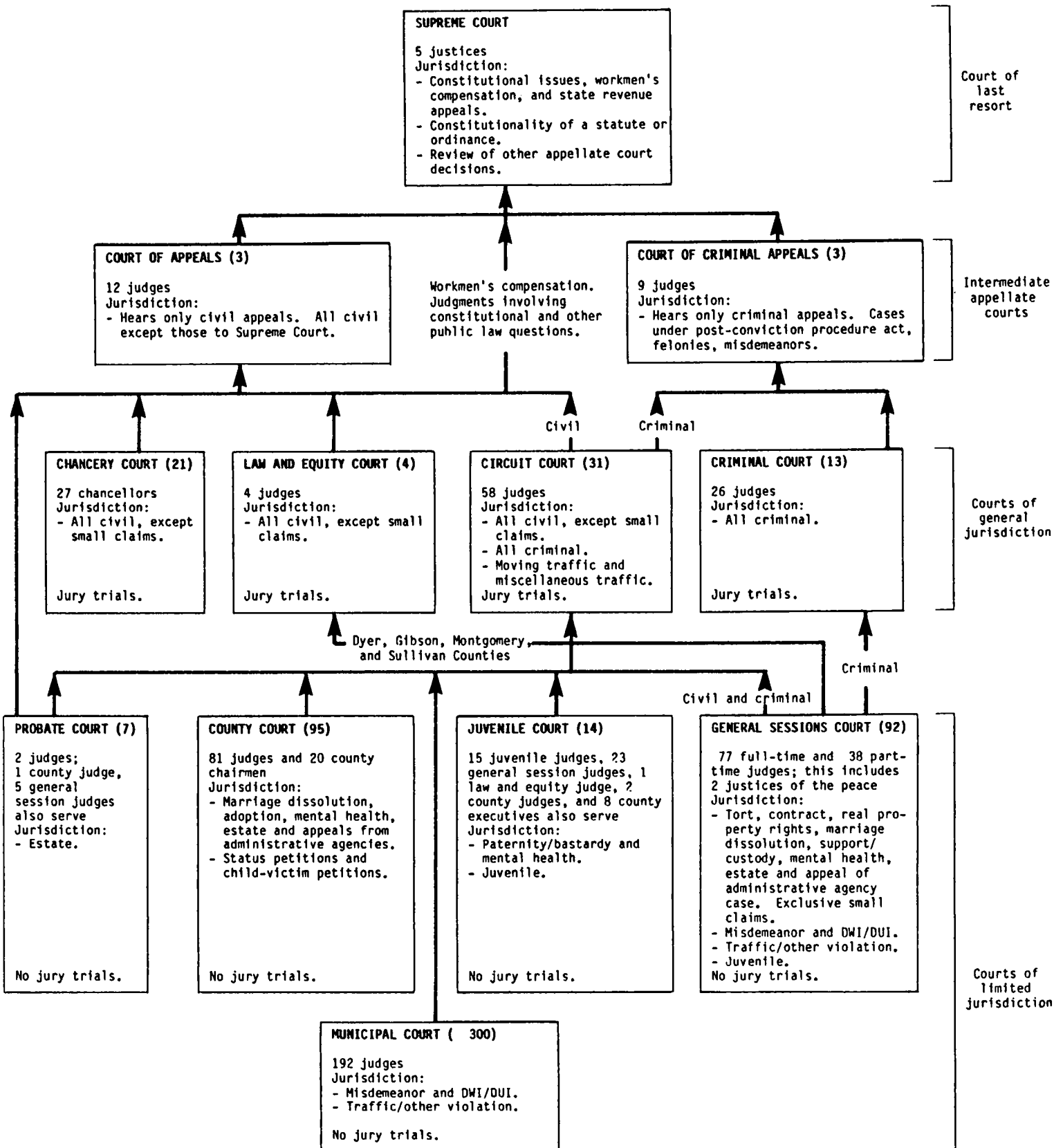
# SOUTH DAKOTA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑  
Indicates route of appeal.



# TENNESSEE COURT SYSTEM, 1981



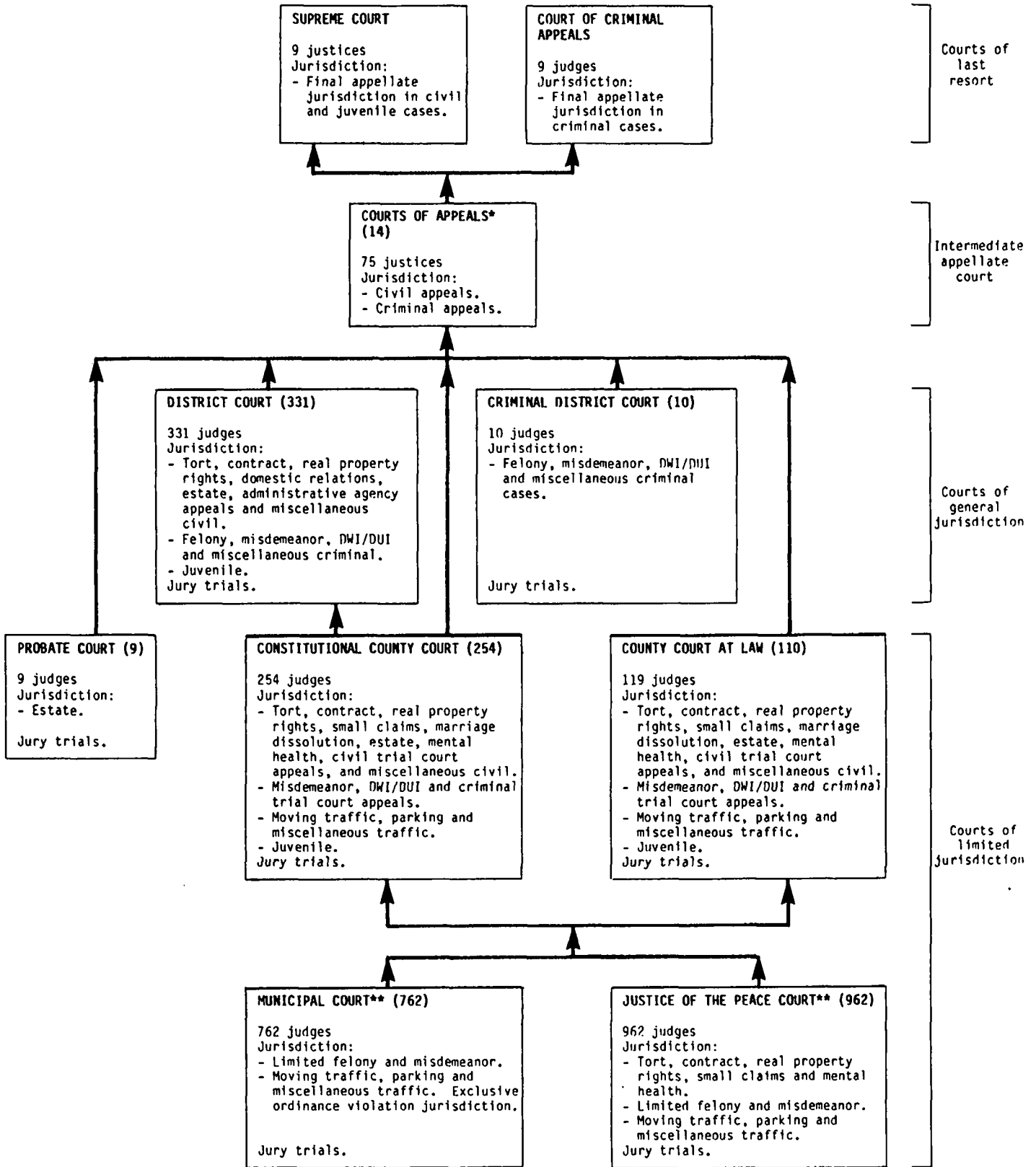
Court of last resort

Intermediate appellate courts

Courts of general jurisdiction

Courts of limited jurisdiction

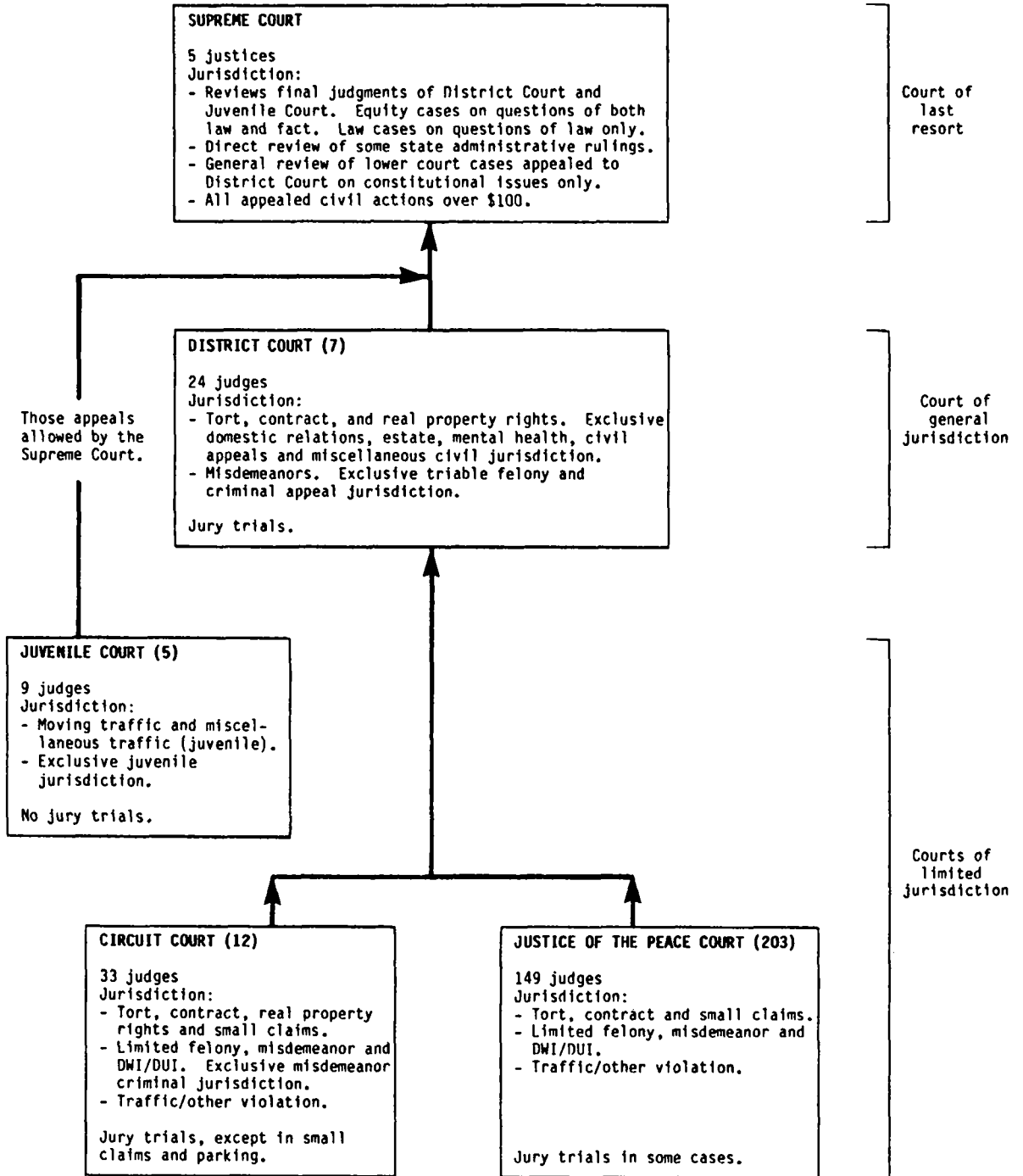
# TEXAS COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

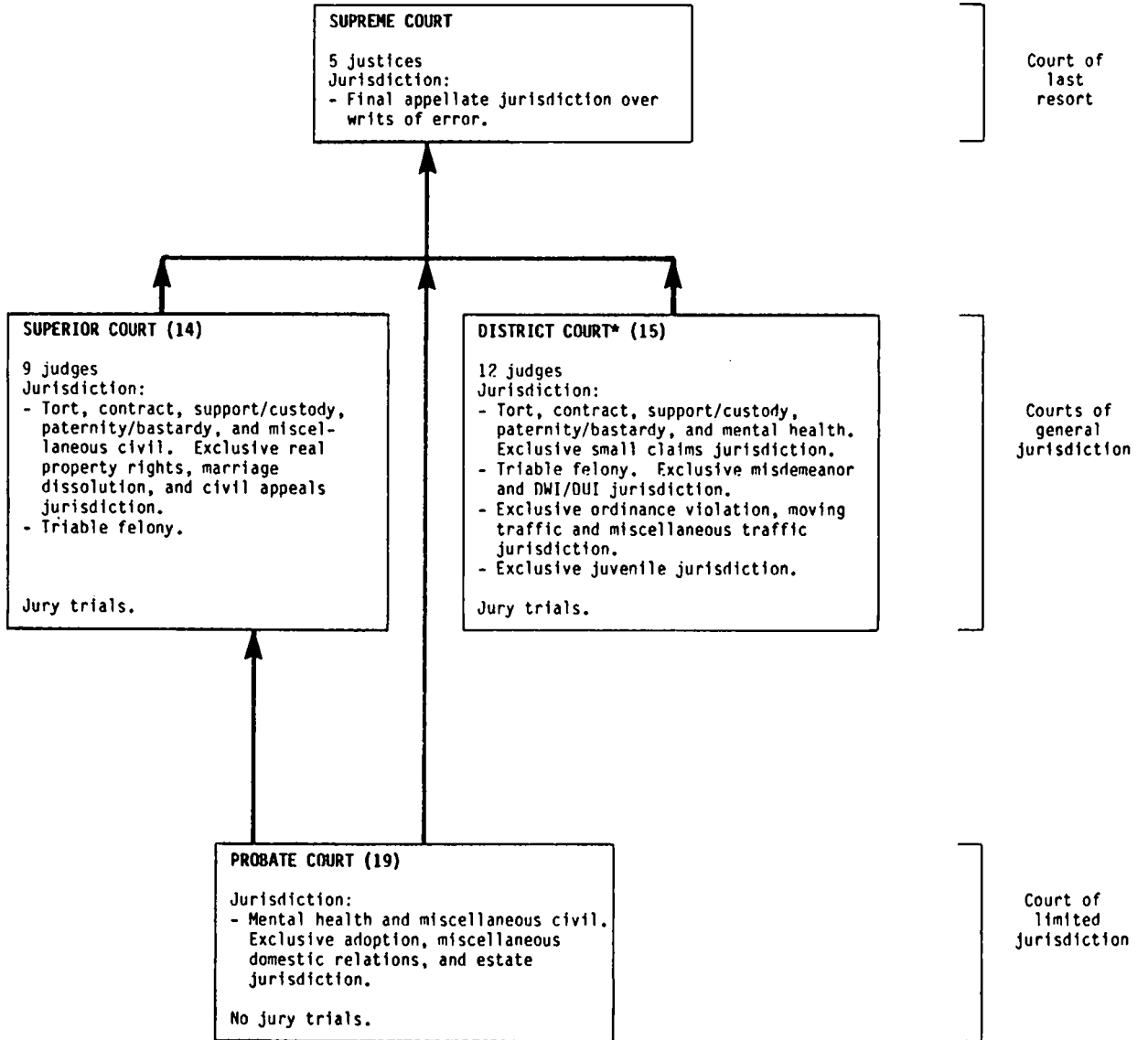
\*In 1981, jurisdiction over criminal appeals was added to the Courts of Appeal.  
 \*\*Some Municipal and Justice of the Peace Courts may appeal to the District Court.

# UTAH COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

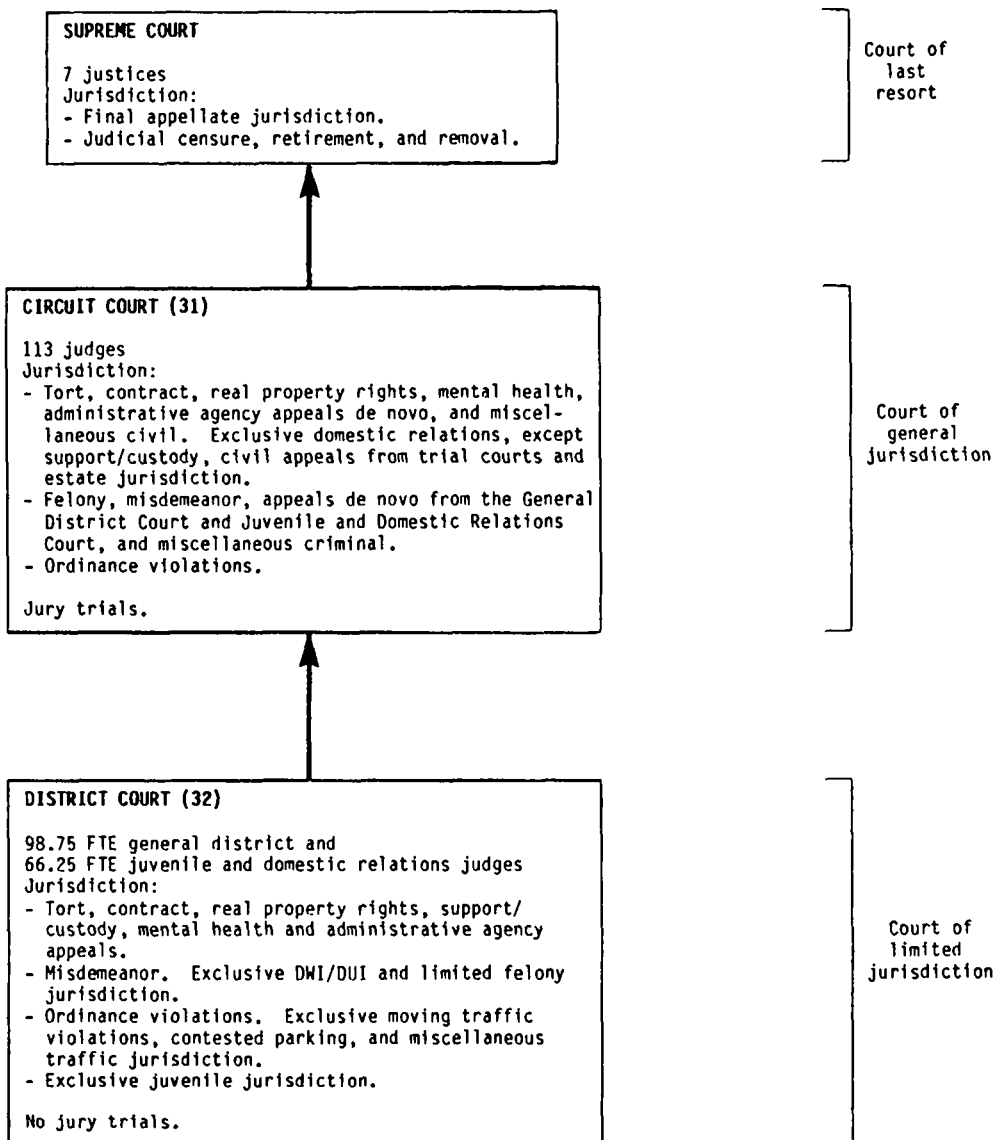
# VERMONT COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

\*The District Court was created as a court of limited jurisdiction, but since its creation, has steadily increased its scope to include almost all criminal business. In 1983, the District Court was granted jurisdiction over all criminal cases, and has become the court of general jurisdiction for criminal matters.

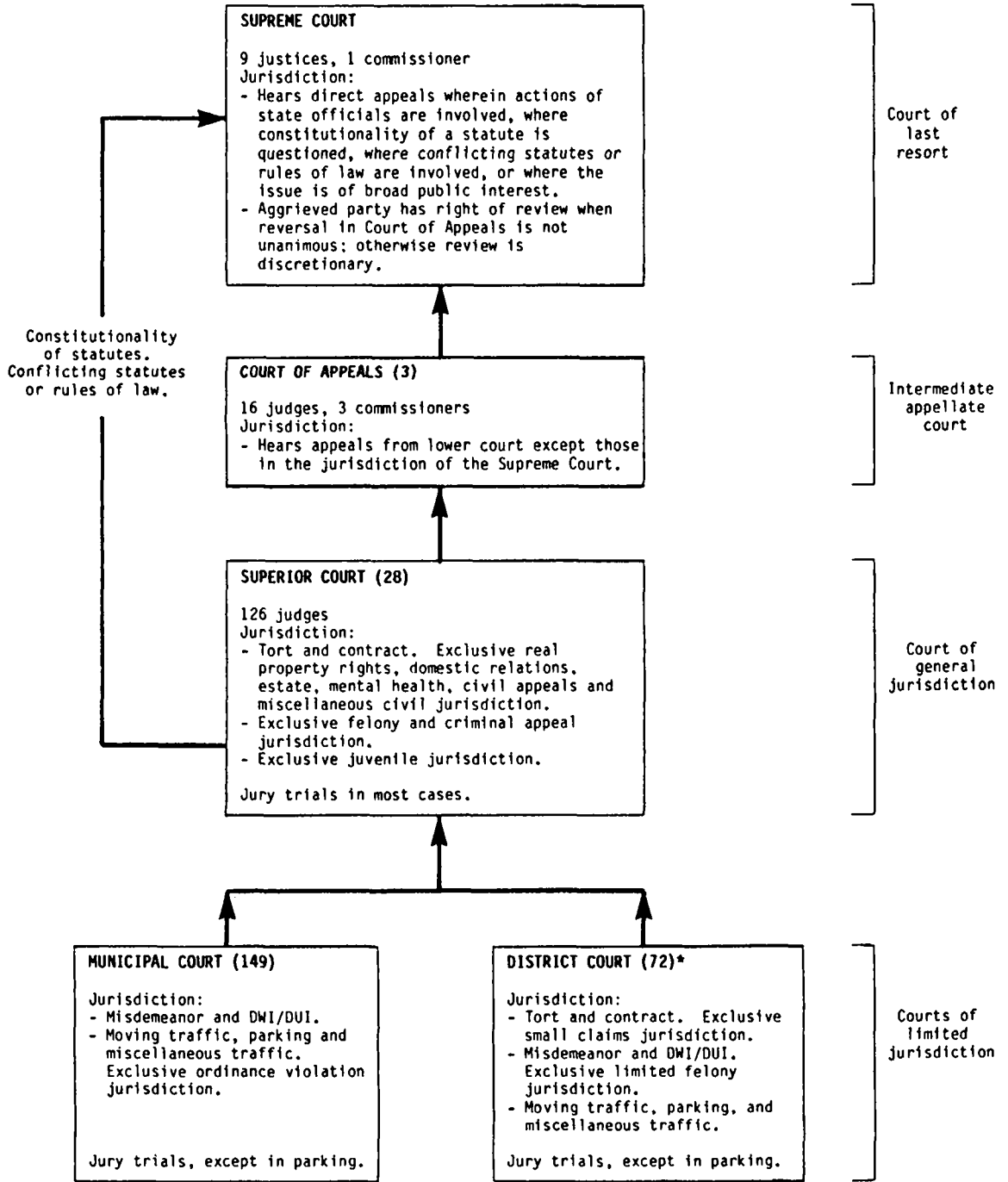
# VIRGINIA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑  
 Indicates route of appeal.

\*The District Court is referred to as the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court when hearing juvenile and domestic relations cases and the General District Court the rest of the time.

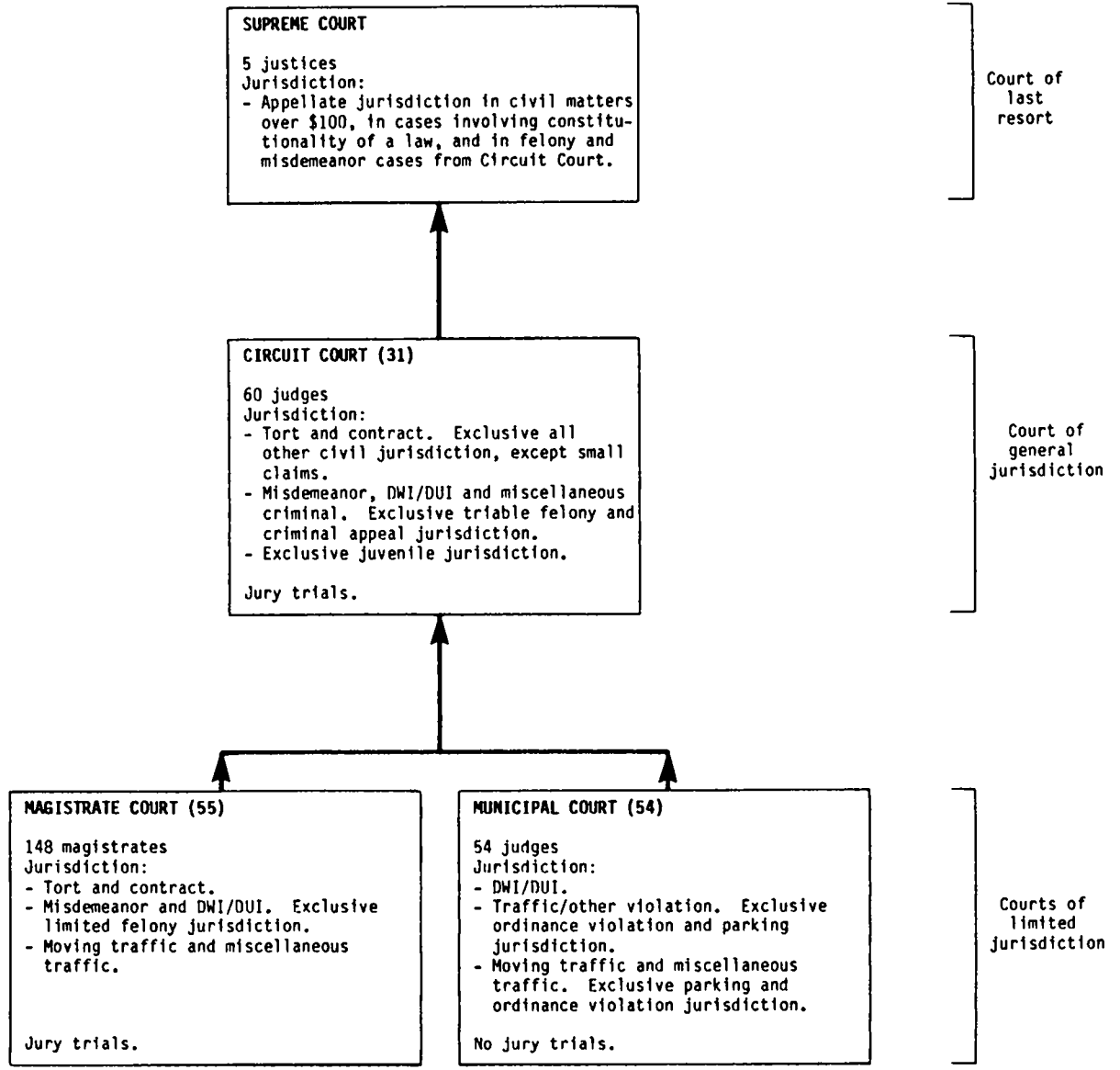
# WASHINGTON COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

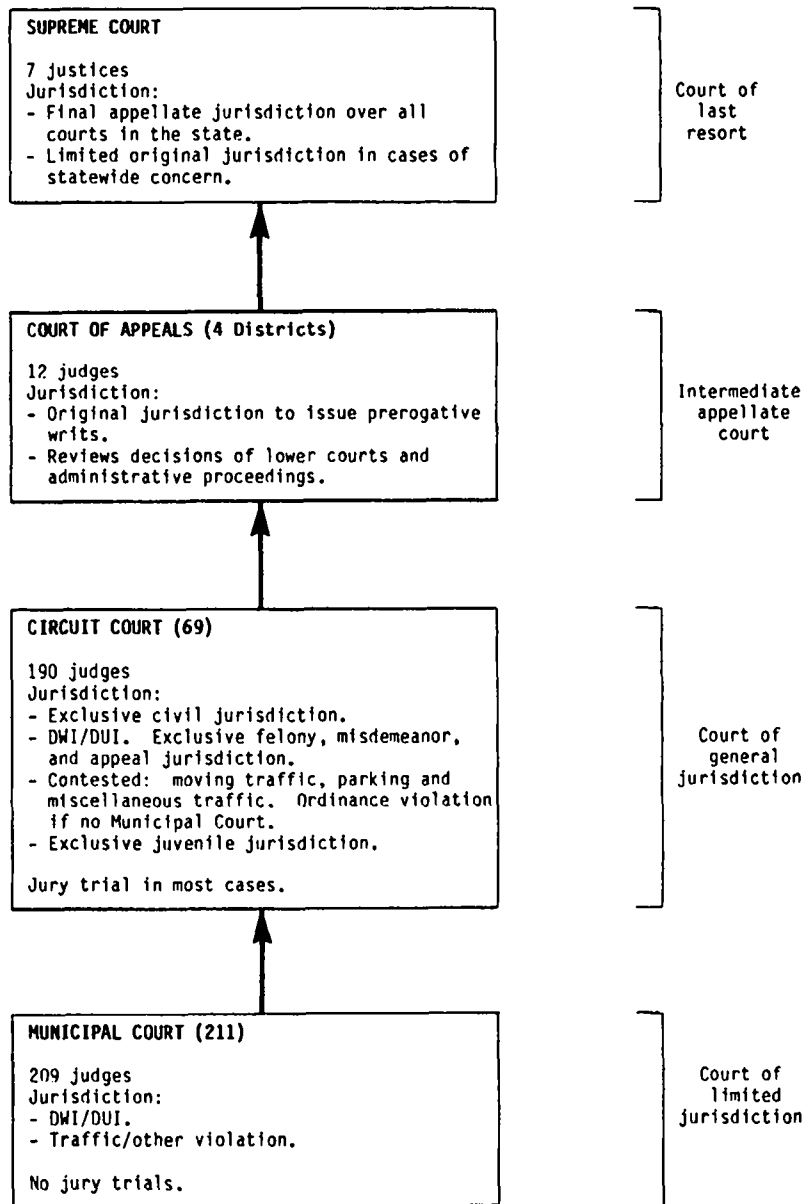
\*District Court provides services to municipalities that do not have a Municipal Court.

# WEST VIRGINIA COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

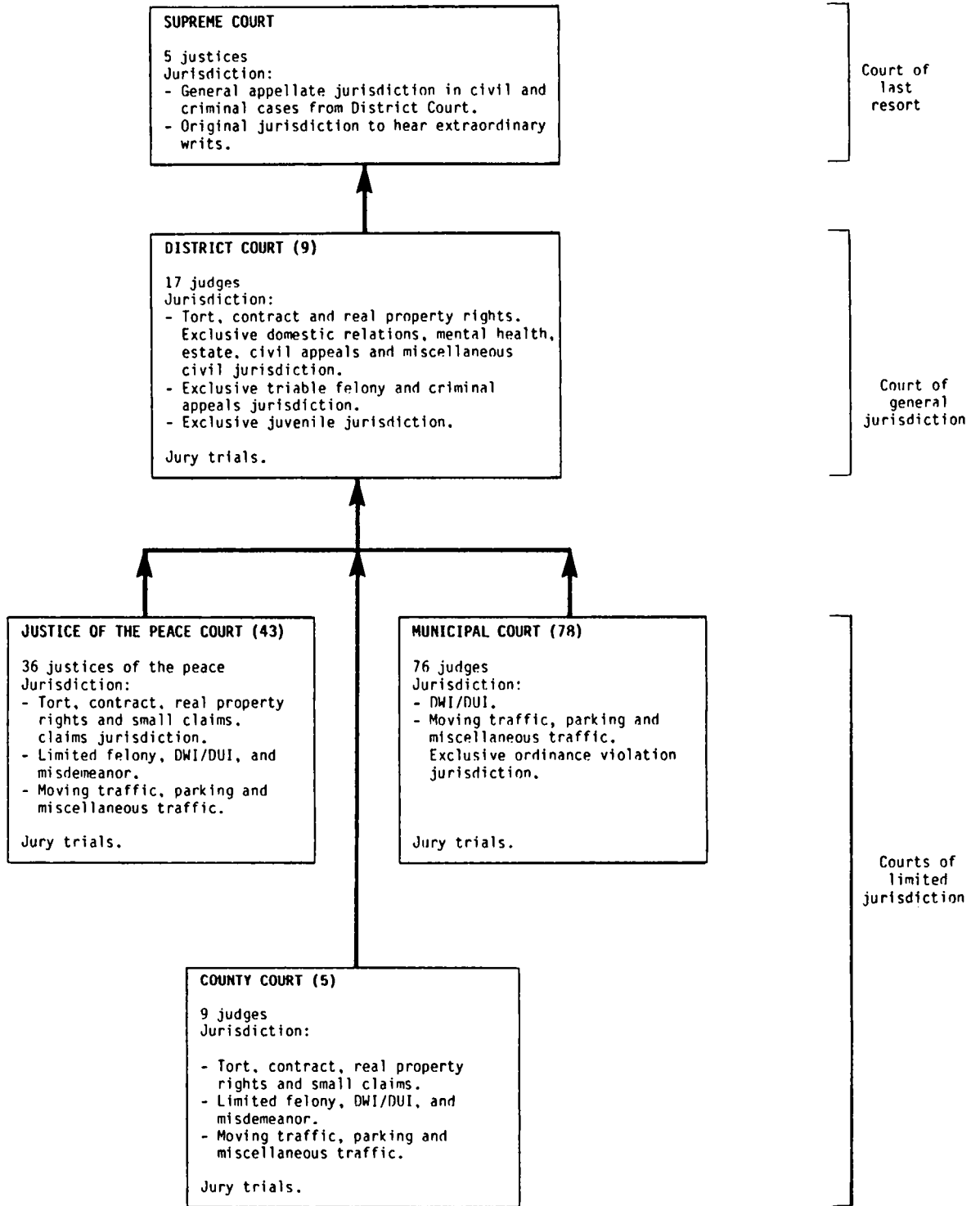
# WISCONSIN COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.



# WYOMING COURT SYSTEM, 1981



↑ Indicates route of appeal.

## **Appendices**

# Appendix A: Technical discussion of estimation procedures

## A. Calculation of Missing and Incomplete Data

Least squares linear regression was used to estimate the total volume of filings and dispositions in appellate courts and for the total civil, criminal, and juvenile caseloads in trial courts in 1981. The procedure followed is similar to the one that was used to estimate national totals for previous editions of the Annual Report. As available from state to state, a group of independent variables was used in a series of regression equations to predict 1981 filings and dispositions for states for whom data were not available. Each regression equation was calculated using data from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and, for trial courts, Guam.

The best predictive equation for each dependent variable was identified, using a stepwise procedure. Variables were added to the predictive equation only if their addition was statistically significant at the  $p < .001$  level. This equation was then used to provide the estimates for all courts for which all the independent variables included in the predictive equation were available. The regression was calculated again using a reduced number of independent variables, tailored to the data available for the remaining states. This resulted in a hierarchy of regression equations for each figure to be predicted. The predictive equation that was used to estimate each figure is identified.

Each predictive equation is accompanied by two quantities selected to give an indication of the quality of each estimate. The coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) tells the portion of the variation in the dependent variable that is explained by the variation in the independent variables. It can have a value ranging from -1.0 to +1.0. All  $R^2$  values reported here are positive. An  $R^2$  value of .872 means that the variation of independent variables in the regression equation (those to the right of the equals sign) account for 87% of the variation in the dependent variable, the variable that is predicted by the equation. The remaining 13% of variation in the dependent variable remains unexplained and, as such, is contributed by the error in the estimate.

The standard error of the estimate (SE) can be used to define an interval (the confidence interval) that, with a specified degree of probability, contains the actual number that we are attempting to estimate by the regression procedures. The standard error can assume any positive value. The formula used to calculate the confidence interval is:

$$\text{predicted value} \pm t_{\alpha/n} (SE)^{1/2}$$

where  $t$  is the value from the Student's  $t$ -distribution with probability  $1 - \alpha$  and  $n$  is the number of values being predicted, a quantity that can be found in most statistical methods textbooks. For our purposes, we report only the predicted value itself, the midpoint in the confidence interval.

Regression equations with larger  $R^2$  values and smaller SE generally give a better prediction of the true value than do those with  $R^2$  values closer to zero and larger SE. These two quantities, however, are affected by the number of observations for each variable included in the regression equation.

### Appellate Courts

The following variables were used to estimate all needed appellate filing and disposition figures:

COLRF--Filings for the current year in the court(s) of last resort  
COLRD--Dispositions for the current year in the court(s) of last resort  
IACF--Filings for the current year in the intermediate appellate court(s)  
IACD--Dispositions for the current year in the intermediate appellate court(s)  
APPF80--Filings in all appellate courts in the previous year  
COLRF80--Filings for the previous year in the court(s) of last resort  
IACF80--Filings for the previous year in the intermediate appellate court(s)  
POP--Estimate of total state population (in 1000's) for 1981.

A number of other variables were also tried, but were not chosen in any of the predictive equations.

### Courts of Last Resort

The following equations were calculated to predict filings, in order from the best prediction to the worst:

A. COLRF = 18.1 + .93(COLRF80) + .02(APPF80)  
 $R^2 = .98$  SE = 131.51  
B. = 50.1 + .97(COLRF80)  
 $R^2 = .98$  SE = 143.77  
C. = 134.7 + .89(COLRD)  
 $R^2 = .96$  SE = 221.49  
D. = 491.5 - .19(IACF80) + .29(POP)  
 $R^2 = .72$  SE = 585.46  
E. = 408.9 + .17(POP)  
 $R^2 = .60$  SE = 686.83

A. COLRD = -66.8 + 1.07(COLRF80)  
 $R^2 = .99$  SE = 169.18  
B. = -96.1 + 1.08(COLRF)  
 $R^2 = .96$  SE = 240.83  
C. = 494.6 - .28(IACF80) + .36(POP)  
 $R^2 = .77$  SE = 582.42  
D. = 369.2 + .18(POP)  
 $R^2 = .54$  SE = 799.66

### Intermediate Appellate Courts

A. IACF = -99.0 + 1.11(IACF80)  
 $R^2 = .99$  SE = 326.72  
B. = 156.36 + .75(POP)  
 $R^2 = .80$  SE = 1,822.18  
A. IACD = -261.13 + 1.14(IACF80)  
 $R^2 = .99$  SE = 338.94  
B. = -23.41 + .77(POP)  
 $R^2 = .81$  SE = 1,819.60

(continued on next page)

**TABLE A:**  
**Estimates of filings and dispositions in courts of last resort and**  
**intermediate appellate courts in 1981, by state.**

State	Court(s) of last resort		Intermediate appellate courts	
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
Alabama .....			3,085 *(B)	3,004* (B)
Connecticut .....	658 (A)	656 (A)		2,452 (A)
Georgia .....			--	--
Idaho .....	477 (B)	402 (A)		
Massachusetts .....	1,944 (D)	2,226 (C)	1,241 (A)	1,114 (A)
Minnesota .....		1,402 (B)	--	--
Mississippi .....	986 (B)		--	--
Nebraska .....	682 (E)	655 (D)	--	--
New Jersey .....	1,245 (C)			
New York .....	3,458 (E)	3,554 (D)	13,315* (B)	13,583* (B)
North Carolina .....	1,899 (D)	2,143 (C)		
Oklahoma .....	2,340 (A)	2,554 (A)	450 (A)	303 (A)
Oregon .....		826 (A)		
Pennsylvania .....	1,851 (A)	1,833 (A)	9,115* (A)	9,198* (A)
Texas .....			2,804+ (A)	2,719+ (A)

-- = Not applicable. These states do not have an intermediate appellate court.

Note: These states were the only ones where estimates of complete data for some courts were required. All other states reported complete data. Blank spaces indicate that complete data are reported by the court. Letters in parentheses identify the regression equations used to make the estimate.

\*Data for the two intermediate appellate courts in Alabama, New York, and Pennsylvania and the two courts of last resort in Oklahoma were added together before they were analyzed.

+Figures estimated for the Texas Court of Appeals are for civil cases only. Between 1980 and 1981 this court was given jurisdiction over criminal cases as well. The number of criminal appeals filed was added to the number of cases reported in Table 1.

**TABLE B:**  
**Estimates of filings and dispositions of civil, criminal, traffic, and juvenile cases in trial courts in 1981, by state.**

State	Civil		Criminal		Juvenile	
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
Alabama .....	237,166	243,905	152,956 (B)	126,293 (C)	--	--
Alaska .....	--	--	10,841 (A)	-8,122 (B)	--	--
Arizona .....	143,724	162,055	117,196 (B)	91,891 (C)	18,580 (B)	18,891 (E)
Arkansas .....	102,287	125,758	101,338 (B)	76,635 (C)	--	8,251 (D)
Connecticut .....	--	186,836	75,083 (A)	52,660 (B)	--	--
Delaware .....	--	--	47,268 (B)	24,617 (C)	9,330 (A)	13,007 (B)
District of Columbia ..	--	4,404	--	--	--	--
Georgia .....	375,039	364,676	205,721 (B)	--	29,046 (D)	29,545 (E)
Hawaii .....	-7,130	29,914	--	--	--	--
Idaho .....	--	--	20,955 (A)	1,447 (B)	--	--
Illinois .....	--	--	458,285 (A)	415,227 (B)	--	--
Indiana .....	366,219	356,950	--	--	--	--
Iowa .....	152,461	169,708	--	--	--	8,984 (A)
Kansas .....	--	--	--	12,478 (A)	26,734 (A)	31,519 (B)
Kentucky .....	215,948	225,319	152,788 (A)	126,180 (B)	34,600 (A)	39,887 (B)
Louisiana .....	269,700	272,403	--	384,035 (A)	24,822 (A)	29,485 (B)
Maine .....	5,518	40,992	22,514 (A)	2,922 (B)	--	--
Maryland .....	265,955	269,123	--	147,168 (A)	--	--
Massachusetts .....	391,598	379,180	--	269,266 (A)	--	23,428 (D)
Michigan .....	677,080	629,250	321,312 (B)	288,258 (C)	40,206 (B)	43,456 (E)
Minnesota .....	251,893	256,806	76,789 (A)	54,275 (B)	22,966 (B)	23,873 (E)
Mississippi .....	121,841	142,886	108,821 (B)	83,834 (C)	17,692 (B)	17,883 (E)
Missouri .....	322,369	318,540	--	--	20,087 (A)	24,491 (B)
Montana .....	-22,773	16,211	53,478 (B)	30,591 (C)	--	--
Nebraska .....	42,462	73,353	78,443 (B)	54,609 (C)	--	9,155 (A)
Nevada .....	-18,446	20,001	55,134 (B)	32,184 (C)	1,031 (D)	11,422 (E)
New Hampshire .....	--	26,634	29,464 (A)	9,497 (B)	--	11,034 (A)
New Jersey .....	527,308	498,056	--	--	--	59,930 (D)
New Mexico .....	21,743	55,205	70,514 (B)	46,981 (C)	--	--
New York .....	1,375,852	1,241,341	588,732 (B)	545,527 (C)	--	--
North Carolina .....	--	--	--	--	--	23,321 (A)
North Dakota .....	--	--	49,179 (B)	26,455 (C)	--	9,404 (A)
Ohio .....	--	--	371,529 (B)	336,569 (C)	123,431 (C)	64,951 (C)
Oklahoma .....	169,186	184,358	126,940 (B)	101,265 (C)	9,487 (C)	7,116 (C)
Oregon .....	131,826	151,632	112,643 (B)	87,510 (C)	--	17,420 (A)
Pennsylvania .....	898,993	823,635	462,775 (A)	419,475 (B)	--	--
Puerto Rico .....	181,750	195,363	--	--	--	--
Rhode Island .....	-9,459	27,873	--	--	--	5,608 (D)
South Carolina .....	174,761	189,241	--	163,389 (A)	19,838 (B)	20,321 (E)
South Dakota .....	--	8,413	50,070 (B)	27,313 (C)	--	5,149 (A)
Tennessee .....	294,994	294,560	175,087 (B)	147,584 (C)	25,381 (D)	25,858 (E)
Texas .....	1,139,877	1,034,638	498,425 (B)	458,648 (C)	11,433 (A)	15,244 (B)
Utah .....	37,552	69,053	--	32,599 (A)	--	31,878 (A)
Virginia .....	363,058	354,181	274,025 (A)	240,890 (B)	--	--
Washington .....	--	--	118,014 (A)	93,279 (B)	--	--
Wisconsin .....	350,811	304,035	179,227 (B)	151,567 (C)	--	--
Wyoming .....	-47,818	-5,727	43,893 (B)	21,370 (C)	3,264 (A)	6,554 (B)

Note: Figures in this table are estimates.  
 California, Colorado, Florida,  
 Vermont, West Virginia, and Guam were  
 excluded from this table because they  
 had complete data for all three of  
 the major categories reported here.

-- = Represents complete reported data.

(continued on next page)

One special problem was encountered in predicting the numbers of cases filed and disposed in the Texas Court of Appeals. No information was available on the number of original proceedings filed or disposed during 1981. Both equations A (one for filings, one for dispositions) were used to predict the number of cases filed and disposed in the court. But, in addition, the court was given jurisdiction over criminal appeals during 1981. Therefore, equations A predicted the total number of civil cases filed and disposed only. The number of criminal appeals filed and disposed were included in the "reported cases" figures given in Table 1 of this report.

### Trial Courts

Filing and disposition figures were predicted for three major case categories for trial courts using the same method of prediction as was used for estimating appellate filings and dispositions. Variables used to estimate caseloads in the trial courts were:

CVF81--Civil filings for 1981  
 CVD81--Civil dispositions for 1981  
 CVF80--Civil filings for 1980  
 CRF81--Criminal filings for 1981  
 CRD81--Criminal dispositions for 1981  
 CRF80--Criminal filings for 1980  
 JVF81--Juvenile filings for 1981  
 JVD81--Juvenile dispositions for 1981  
 JVF80--Juvenile filings for 1980  
 TOTPOP--Total population (in 1000's) for 1981  
 ADULTPOP--Total 18 and over population (in 1000's) for 1981  
 JUVPOP--Total under 18 population (in 1000's) for 1981  
 JUDEXP--Total judicial expenditures for 1979  
 TOTPOLICE--Total FTE police, 1979

All regression equations below were statistically significant at the level of  $p < .001$ , showing that the same results would have been reached by chance at one or less than one in 1,000 times.

Civil caseload. All complete state-level civil filing and disposition data were used as the independent variable vectors in regression equations to predict missing values for states for whom complete civil filing and disposition data were not available. Of all available variables, the best indicator of both civil filings and dispositions was the total U.S. population. The regression equations calculated were:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CVF81} &= -88,755.62 + 83.21(\text{TOTPOP}) \\ &R^2 = .98 \text{ SE} = 51,041.67 \\ \text{CVD81} &= -41,586.69 + 72.89(\text{TOTPOP}) \\ &R^2 = .98 \text{ SE} = 44,639.89 \end{aligned}$$

Since the independent variable, total population, was available for every state, all missing values could be estimated with these two equations.

Both regression equations take the form of a large negative constant value to which a multiple of the total population is added. For states with a small population, the multiple of the population is not large enough to offset the negative constant value, so the number of cases predicted as filed or disposed for these small states may be a negative number. As an individual prediction of filings or dispositions, a negative number does not make any sense. The goal of these estimates, however, is not to

predict the filing and disposition figures for individual states, but for the nation as a whole. When adding together all complete state-level reported data and the estimated figures for states for whom complete data are not available, the negative predictions for small states may serve to offset predictions for states with large populations that may predict filings and dispositions that are too large.

Criminal caseload. Not enough complete state-level criminal filing and disposition data were available to be adequate to predict missing values for the remaining states. As a result, the complete data were supplemented by state-level figures believed to be at least 90% complete. Many of these additional figures do not include DWI/DUI cases, thought to be a small portion of the criminal caseload, and do include a few ordinance violations and preliminary hearings, categories of cases removed from the definition of the criminal caseload by the CSIM Project for 1981.

After preliminary testing of possible predictive equations, data for California were removed before calculating the final regression equations for the other states. California is much larger than all the other states, and has a pattern of criminal case filings and dispositions that is unique to it. Including it in the regression equations serves to pin down the upper end of the line of best fit calculated, and introduces substantial errors at its lower end, where most of the other states fall. As a result, data for California were added into the estimate for the entire nation, but they were not used in calculating estimates for states with missing values.

A hierarchy of regression equations identified the best predictors of criminal filings and dispositions. They are, in order from best to worst:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{A. CRF81} &= -2,385.28 + .71(\text{CRF80}) \\ &R^2 = .98 \text{ SE} = 19,600.51 \\ \text{B.} &= 28,225.89 + .31(\text{TOTPOP}) \\ &R^2 = .63 \text{ SE} = 96,203.43 \\ \text{A. CRD81} &= -18,686.97 + .95(\text{CRF81}) \\ &R^2 = .99 \text{ SE} = 11,704.64 \\ \text{B.} &= -20,636.64 + .67(\text{CRF80}) \\ &R^2 = .98 \text{ SE} = 24,624.34 \\ \text{C.} &= 6,297.88 + .30(\text{TOTPOP}) \\ &R^2 = .65 \text{ SE} = 91,061.90 \end{aligned}$$

For both filings and dispositions, the first (and best) equation (A) was used to estimate all missing values for those states for which the independent variables, criminal filings in 1981 and 1980, respectively, were available. For those states remaining with missing data, the (B) equations (and then the (C) equation, in the case of criminal dispositions) were used until a value had been estimated for all states for whom a reported figure was not available. The regression equation that was used to estimate each criminal figure on the accompanying table is indicated by the letter following each figure.

Juvenile caseload. States use two distinct methods for counting their juvenile caseload. Thirteen states count juvenile cases at intake.<sup>1</sup> Thirty-nine count them when a petition is filed.<sup>2</sup> (It is not known when juvenile cases are counted in Guam, so it was excluded from the initial stages of the analysis.) Some juvenile matters are resolved before the stage at which a petition would be

filed. As a result, juvenile filing and disposition figures were estimated separately for these two groups of states.

The calculated regression equations for states that count the case when a petition is filed were:

A.  $JF81 = 2,440.93 + .84(JF80)$   
 $R^2 = .89$  SE = 9,959.23

B.  $= 9,153.17 + 3.37(TOTPOP)$   
 $R^2 = .34$  SE = 24,534.65

A.  $JD81 = 3,154.80 + 1.06(JF81)$   
 $R^2 = .99$  SE = 3,780.44

B.  $= 5,679 + .89(JF80)$   
 $R^2 = .88$  SE = 11,092.43

For those states that count the case at intake:

C.  $JF81 = 4,954.17 + .56(JF80)$   
 $R^2 = .99$  SE = 1,726.06

C.  $JD81 = 4,815.27 + .28(JF80)$   
 $R^2 = .99$  SE = 672.56

D.  $= 2,310.09 + .51(JF81)$   
 $R^2 = .99$  SE = 322.53

No further estimates could be made for the two separate groups that met the statistical significance criterion of a p value less than or equal to .001 stated above. For those states remaining with missing data, all the data were pooled and two final estimates were made:

D.  $JF81 = 7,811.79 + 3.81(TOTPOP)$   
 $R^2 = .35$  SE = 25,103.13

E.  $JD81 = 8,183.88 + 3.83(TOTPOP)$   
 $R^2 = .39$  SE = 23,302.23

All figures estimated were positive.

The letters used to identify these regression equations may not be combined to produce the same hierarchy as was developed for the criminal equations. Within unit of count, equation A is better than equation B, but comparisons can not be made between equations A and C. The initial prediction of filings for states that count cases at intake appears to be better than that for states that count when the petition is filed. The  $R^2$  value is larger for the states that count at intake, and the SE is smaller, but these differences may be due to the fact that the number of states that count at intake was substantially smaller than that of states that count when the petition is filed (13 vs 39). If the two groups were of similar size, these differences might disappear.

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1. The 13 states are: Arkansas, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, and Tennessee.

2. The 39 states are: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

## Appendix B: Sources of 1981 state court caseload statistics

STATE	COURTS OF LAST RESORT	INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURTS	GENERAL JURISDICTION COURTS	LIMITED JURISDICTION COURTS
Alabama ....	<u>Alabama Judicial System Annual Report, Fiscal Year 1981 (The Administrative Director of the Courts)</u>	<u>Alabama Judicial System Annual Report, Fiscal Year 1981 (The Administrative Director of the Courts)</u>	<u>Alabama Judicial System Annual Report, Fiscal Year 1981 (The Administrative Director of the Courts)</u>	<u>Alabama Judicial System Annual Report, Fiscal Year 1981 (The Administrative Director of the Courts)</u>
Alaska .....	<u>Alaska Court System, 1981 Annual Report (Administrative Director of the Courts) and memo from clerk to justices of Supreme Court entitled "1981 Annual Statistical Report."</u>	<u>Alaska Court System, 1981 Annual Report (Administrative Director of the Courts) and memo from clerk to justices of Supreme Court entitled "1981 Annual Statistical Report."</u>	<u>Alaska Court System, 1981 Annual Report (Administrative Director of the Courts)</u>	<u>Alaska Court System, 1981 Annual Report (Administrative Director of the Courts)</u>
Arizona ....	<u>The Arizona Courts, 1981 Annual Judicial Report (Arizona Supreme Court)</u>	<u>The Arizona Courts, 1981 Annual Judicial Report (Arizona Supreme Court)</u>	<u>The Arizona Courts, 1981 Annual Judicial Report (Arizona Supreme Court)</u>	<u>The Arizona Courts, 1981 Annual Judicial Report (Arizona Supreme Court)</u>
Arkansas ...	<u>Seventeenth Annual Report, 1981 Judicial Statistics (Executive Secretary, Judicial Department)</u>	<u>Seventeenth Annual Report, 1981 Judicial Statistics (Executive Secretary, Judicial Department)</u>	<u>Seventeenth Annual Report, 1981 Judicial Statistics (Executive Secretary, Judicial Department)</u>	<u>Seventeenth Annual Report, 1981 Judicial Statistics (Executive Secretary, Judicial Department)</u>
California .	<u>1982 Annual Report of the Administrative Office of the California Courts (Judicial Council of California)</u>	<u>1982 Annual Report of the Administrative Office of the California Courts (Judicial Council of California)</u>	<u>1982 Annual Report of the Administrative Office of the California Courts (Judicial Council of California) and additional information was provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts</u>	<u>1982 Annual Report of the Administrative Office of the California Courts (Judicial Council of California) and additional information was provided by the Administrative Office of Courts</u>
Colorado ...	<u>Annual Statistical Report of the Colorado Judiciary 1980-81 (Office of the State Court Administrator)</u>	<u>Annual Statistical Report of the Colorado Judiciary 1980-81 (Office of the State Court Administrator)</u>	<u>Annual Statistical Report of the Colorado Judiciary 1980-81 (Office of the State Court Administrator)</u>	<u>Annual Statistical Report of the Colorado Judiciary 1980-81 (Office of the State Court Administrator)</u>
Connecticut .	<u>Report of the Judicial Department, State of Connecticut, July 1, 1980 to June 30, 1982 (Chief Justice and Chief Court Administrator, Judicial Department)</u>	<u>Report of the Judicial Department, State of Connecticut, July 1, 1980 to June 30, 1982 (Chief Justice and Chief Court Administrator, Judicial Department)</u>	<u>Report of the Judicial Department, State of Connecticut, July 1, 1980 to June 30, 1982 (Chief Justice and Chief Court Administrator, Judicial Department) and additional information was supplied by the Office of Chief Court Administrator, Judicial Department</u>	<u>Report of the Judicial Department, State of Connecticut, July 1, 1980 to June 30, 1982 (Chief Justice and Chief Court Administrator, Judicial Department)</u>
Delaware ....	<u>1981 Annual Report of the Delaware Judiciary (Director, Administrative Office of the Courts)</u>	--	<u>1981 Annual Report of the Delaware Judiciary (Director, Administrative Office of the Courts)</u>	<u>1981 Annual Report of the Delaware Judiciary (Director, Administrative Office of the Courts)</u>
District of Columbia ....	<u>1981 Annual Report (Joint Committee on Judicial Administration in the District of Columbia and Executive Officer)</u>	--	<u>1981 Annual Report (Joint Committee on Judicial Administration in the District of Columbia and Executive Officer)</u>	--
Florida .....	<u>Florida Judicial System Statistical and Program Activity Report 1980 and 1981 (Office of State Courts Administrator) and additional information was supplied by the Office of State Courts Administrator and the clerk of the court</u>	<u>Florida Judicial System Statistical and Program Activity Report 1980 and 1981 (Office of State Courts Administrator)</u>	<u>Florida Judicial System Statistical and Program Activity Report 1980 and 1981 (Office of State Courts Administrator)</u>	<u>Florida Judicial System Statistical and Program Activity Report 1980 and 1981 (Office of State Court Administrator)</u>
Georgia .....	<u>Eighth Annual Report (Administrative Office of the Courts) and additional information was supplied by the clerk of the court</u>	<u>Eighth Annual Report (Administrative Office of the Courts) and additional information was supplied by the Administrative Office of the Courts during data verification</u>	<u>Eighth Annual Report (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u>	<u>Eighth Annual Report (Administrative Office of the Courts) and additional information was supplied by the Administrative Office of the Courts during data verification</u>
Guam .....	--	--	Unpublished data supplied by the Office of the Administrative Director of the Courts	--

-- indicates that the state has no court at this level.



STATE	COURTS OF LAST RESORT	INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURTS	GENERAL JURISDICTION COURTS	LIMITED JURISDICTION COURTS
Hawaii .....	<u>State of Hawaii: Annual Report 1980-1981 (Administrative Director of the Courts)</u>	<u>State of Hawaii: Annual Report 1980-1981 (Administrative Director of the Courts)</u>	<u>State of Hawaii: Annual Report 1980-1981 (Administrative Director of the Courts)</u>	<u>State of Hawaii: Annual Report 1980-1981 (Administrative Director of the Courts)</u>
Idaho .....	<u>The Idaho Courts 1981 Annual Report and Appendix (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u> and additional information was supplied by the Administrative Office of the Courts	--	<u>Idaho Courts 1981 Annual Report (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u>	--
Illinois ....	<u>1981 Annual Report of the Supreme Court of Illinois (Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts)</u> and additional information was supplied by the Administrative Office	<u>1981 Annual Report of the Supreme Court of Illinois (Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts)</u>	<u>1981 Annual Report of the Supreme Court of Illinois (Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts)</u> and additional information was supplied by the Administrative Office	--
Indiana .....	<u>1981 Indiana Judicial Report (Division of State Court Administration)</u>	<u>1981 Indiana Judicial Report (Division of State Court Administration)</u>	<u>1981 Indiana Judicial Report (Division of State Court Administration)</u>	<u>1981 Indiana Judicial Report (Division of State Court Administration)</u>
Iowa .....	<u>1981 Annual Statistical Report (Administrator of the Judicial Department)</u>	<u>1981 Annual Statistical Report (Administrator of the Judicial Department)</u> and additional information was supplied by the clerk of the court	<u>1981 Annual Statistical Report, (Court Administrator of the Judicial Department)</u>	--
Kansas .....	<u>Blueprint for the 1980's: An Executive Summary of the Kansas Judicial Branch 1980-1981 Fiscal Year (Office of Judicial Administration)</u> and additional information was supplied by the Office of Judicial Administration	<u>Blueprint for the 1980's: An Executive Summary of the Kansas Judicial Branch 1980-1981 Fiscal Year (Office of Judicial Administration)</u> and additional information was supplied by the Office of Judicial Administration	<u>Annual Report on the Courts of Kansas: 1980-1981 Fiscal Year (Office of Judicial Administration)</u>	Not available
Kentucky ....	Unpublished data provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts	<u>Kentucky Court of Justice, 1980-1982 Report (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u> and additional information was supplied by the clerk of the court and Administrative Office of the Courts	<u>Kentucky Court of Justice, 1980-1982 Report (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u>	<u>Kentucky Court of Justice, 1980-1982 Report (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u>
Louisiana ...	<u>Judicial Council Annual Report with 1981 Statistics and Related Data (Judicial Administrator)</u>	<u>Judicial Council Annual Report with 1981 Statistics and Related Data (Judicial Administrator)</u>	<u>Judicial Council Annual Report with 1981 Statistics and Related Data (Judicial Administrator)</u>	<u>Judicial Council Annual Report with 1981 Statistics and Related Data (Judicial Administrator)</u>
Maine .....	<u>Annual Report 1981 (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u> and additional information was supplied by the clerk of the court	--	<u>Annual Report 1981 (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u>	<u>Annual Report 1981 (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u> and additional information was supplied by the Administrative Office of the Courts
Maryland ....	<u>Annual Report 1980-81 and Statistical Abstract (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u>	<u>Annual Report 1980-81 (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u>	<u>Annual Report 1980-81 (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u>	<u>Annual Report 1980-81 (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u>
Massachusetts ....	Unpublished data supplied by the Supreme Judicial Court	Unpublished data supplied by the Appeals Courts	<u>Annual Report of the Massachusetts Trial Court, 1981 (Chief Administrative Justice)</u> and additional information was supplied by the Office of the Administrative Justice	--
Minnesota ...	Unpublished data supplied by the Office of the State Court Administrator	--	Unpublished data supplied by the Office of the State Court Administrator	Unpublished data supplied by the Office of the State Court Administrator
Mississippi .	<u>15th Annual Statistical Report 1980 (Executive Assistant, Supreme Court)</u>	--	Not available	Not available

-- indicates that the state has no court at this level.

(continued on next page)

## Appendix B: Sources of 1981 state court caseload statistics (continued)

STATE	COURTS OF LAST RESORT	INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURTS	GENERAL JURISDICTION COURTS	LIMITED JURISDICTION COURTS
Missouri ....	<u>Missouri Judicial Department Annual Statistical Report Fiscal Year 1980-1981 (Office of the State Court Administrator)</u>	<u>Missouri Judicial Report Fiscal Year 1980-1981 (Office of the State Court Administrator)</u>	<u>Missouri Judicial Branch Annual Statistical Report Fiscal Year 1980-1981 (Office of the State Court Administrator)</u>	--
Montana .....	Unpublished data supplied by the State Court Administrator	--	Unpublished data provided by the State Court Administrator	Not available
Nebraska ....	<u>The Courts of Nebraska 1981 (Office of the State Court Administrator)</u> and unpublished data provided by the clerk of the court	--	<u>The Courts of Nebraska 1981 (Office of the State Court Administrator)</u>	<u>The Courts of Nebraska 1981 (Office of the State Court Administrator)</u>
Nevada .....	Unpublished data provided by the clerk of the court	--	--	Unpublished data provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts
New Hampshire ...	<u>Nineteenth Biennial Report of the Judicial Council of the State of New Hampshire (Chairman, Judicial Council)</u> and additional information supplied by the Clerk of the Supreme Court	--	<u>Nineteenth Biennial Report of the Judicial Council of the State of New Hampshire (Chairman, Judicial Council)</u>	<u>Nineteenth Biennial Report of the Judicial Council of the State of New Hampshire (Chairman, Judicial Council)</u>
New Jersey ..	<u>1981 Statistical Supplement: New Jersey Judiciary (Administrative Director of the Courts)</u>	<u>1981 Statistical Supplement: New Jersey Judiciary (Administrative Director of the Courts)</u>	<u>1981 Statistical Supplement: New Jersey Judiciary (Administrative Director of the Courts)</u>	<u>1981 Statistical Supplement: New Jersey Judiciary (Administrative Director of the Courts)</u>
New Mexico ..	<u>Annual Report, July 1, 1980-June 30, 1981 (Judicial Department of the State of New Mexico)</u>	<u>Annual Report, July 1, 1980-June 30, 1981 (Judicial Department of the State of New Mexico)</u> and additional information was provided by the clerk of the court	<u>Annual Report, July 1, 1980-June 30, 1981 (Judicial Department of the State of New Mexico)</u>	<u>Annual Report, July 1, 1980-June 30, 1981 (Judicial Department of the State of New Mexico)</u>
New York ....	<u>Fourth Annual Report 1982 (Chief Administrator of the Courts)</u>	<u>Fourth Annual Report 1982 (Chief Administrator of the Courts)</u>	<u>Fourth Annual Report 1982 (Chief Administrator of the Courts)</u>	<u>Fourth Annual Report 1982 (Chief Administrator of the Courts)</u> and additional information was supplied by the Office of the Chief Administrator of the Courts during data verification
North Carolina ....	<u>North Carolina Courts 1980-1981 (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u>	Unpublished data from the Clerk of the Court of Appeals and from the Administrative Office of the Courts	<u>North Carolina Courts 1980-1981 (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u> and additional information was supplied by the Administrative Office of the Courts	<u>North Carolina Courts 1980-1981 (Administrative Office of the Courts)</u>
North Dakota .....	<u>Annual Report 1981 (North Dakota Judicial Council)</u>	--	<u>Annual Report 1981 (North Dakota Judicial Council)</u>	<u>Annual Report 1981 (North Dakota Judicial Council)</u> and additions and corrections were supplied by the administrative office of the court
Ohio .....	<u>Ohio Courts Summary 1981 (Office of the Administrative Director)</u>	<u>Ohio Courts Summary 1981 (Office of the Administrative Director)</u>	<u>Ohio Courts Summary 1981 (Office of the Administrative Director)</u>	<u>Ohio Courts Summary 1981 (Office of the Administrative Director)</u>
Oregon .....	<u>28th Annual Report Relating to Judicial Administration in the Courts of Oregon, 1981 (Office of the State Court Administrator)</u>	<u>28th Annual Report Relating to Judicial Administration in the Courts of Oregon, 1981 (Office of the State Court Administrator)</u>	<u>Statistical Report Relating to the Circuit Courts and District Courts of the State of Oregon, 1981 (Office of the State Court Administrator)</u>	<u>Statistical Report Relating to the Circuit Courts and District Courts of the State of Oregon, 1981 (Office of the State Court Administrator)</u>
Pennsylvania .....	<u>1981 Annual Report (Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts)</u>	<u>1981 Annual Report (Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts)</u>	<u>1981 Annual Report (Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts)</u>	<u>1981 Annual Report (Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts)</u>
Puerto Rico .	<u>Anuario Estadístico, 1980-81 (Office of Court Administration)</u>	--	<u>Anuario Estadístico, 1980-81 (Office of Court Administration)</u> and additional information was supplied by the Office of Court Administration	<u>Anuario Estadístico, 1980-81 (Office of Court Administration)</u>

-- indicates that the state has no court at this level.

STATE	COURTS OF LAST RESORT	INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURTS	GENERAL JURISDICTION COURTS	LIMITED JURISDICTION COURTS
Rhode Island .....	<u>Report on the Judiciary 1980-1982 (State of Rhode Island) and unpublished data provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts</u>	--	<u>Report on the Judiciary 1980-1982 (State of Rhode Island) and unpublished data provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts</u>	<u>Report on the Judiciary 1980-1982 (State of Rhode Island) and unpublished data provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts</u>
South Carolina ....	<u>Annual Report 1982 (Judicial Department of South Carolina)</u>	--	<u>Annual Report 1982 (Judicial Department of South Carolina)</u>	<u>Annual Report 1982 (Judicial Department of South Carolina)</u>
South Dakota .....	Unpublished data supplied by the clerk of the court	--	<u>Benchmark: A Biennial Report of the South Dakota Unified Judicial System, Fiscal Year 1981 (State Court Administrator's Office) and additional information was supplied by the State Court Administrator's Office</u>	--
Tennessee ...	<u>1981 Annual Report (Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Tennessee)</u>	<u>1981 Annual Report (Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Tennessee)</u>	<u>1981 Annual Report (Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Tennessee)</u>	<u>1981 Annual Report (Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Tennessee)</u>
Texas .....	<u>53rd Annual Report 1981 (Texas Judicial Council) and additional information was supplied by the Office of the Administrative Director of the Courts</u>	<u>53rd Annual Report 1981 (Texas Judicial Council)</u>	<u>53rd Annual Report 1981 (Texas Judicial Council)</u>	<u>53rd Annual Report 1981 (Texas Judicial Council)</u>
Utah .....	<u>Annual Report, Utah Courts July 1, 1980 to June 30, 1981 (Utah Judicial Council)</u>	--	<u>Annual Report, Utah Courts July 1, 1980 to June 30, 1981 (Utah Judicial Council)</u>	<u>Annual Report, Utah Courts July 1, 1980 to June 30, 1981 (Utah Judicial Council) and Juvenile Court for the State of Utah, Annual Report, 1981 (Administrative Office of the Juvenile Court)</u>
Vermont .....	<u>Judicial Statistics for Year Ending June 30, 1981 (Office of the Court Administrator)</u>	--	<u>Judicial Statistics for Year Ending June 30, 1981 (Office of the Court Administrator)</u>	<u>Judicial Statistics for Year Ending June 30, 1981 (Office of the Court Administrator)</u>
Virginia ....	<u>State of the Judiciary Report 1980 and 1981 (Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court) and additional information was supplied by the Office of the Executive Secretary</u>	--	<u>State of the Judiciary Report 1981 (Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court)</u>	<u>State of the Judiciary Report 1981 (Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court)</u>
Washington ..	<u>1980 and 1981 Annual Report of the Caseloads and Operations of the Courts of Washington (Office of the Administrator for the Courts)</u>	<u>1980 and 1981 Annual Report of the Caseloads and Operations of the Courts of Washington (Office of the Administrator for the Courts)</u>	<u>1981 Annual Report of the Caseloads and Operations of the Courts of Washington (Office of the Administrator of the Courts) and additional information was supplied by the Administrative Office of the Courts</u>	<u>1981 Annual Report of the Caseloads and Operations of the Courts of Washington (Office of the Administrator of the Courts) and additional information was supplied by the Administrative Office of the Courts</u>
West Virginia ....	Unpublished data provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts	--	Unpublished data provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts	Unpublished data provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts
Wisconsin ...	Unpublished data provided by the Office of the Director of State Courts and the Clerk of the Court	Unpublished data provided by the Office of the Director of State Courts	Unpublished data provided by the Office of the Director of State Courts	Unpublished data provided by the Office of the Director of State Courts
Wyoming .....	Unpublished data provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court and the Office of the Court Coordinator.	--	Unpublished data provided by the Office of the Court Coordinator	Not available

-- indicates that the state has no court at this level.

# Appendix C: Prototype of statistical profile used in 1981 data collection

STATE NAME, COURT NAME  
 Court of last resort or intermediate appellate court  
 Number of court divisions, Number of judges  
 Time period covered

	Beginning pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending
<b>Cases:</b>				
<b>Appeals:</b>				
Civil .....				
Criminal .....				
Postconviction remedy .....				
Appeal of administrative agency case .....				
Juvenile .....				
Total appeals .....	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Other cases:</b>				
<b>Original proceedings:</b>				
Original jurisdiction .....				
Disciplinary matter .....				
Advisor' opinion .....				
Total original proceedings .....				
<b>Requests to appeal:</b>				
Civil .....				
Criminal .....				
Postconviction remedy .....				
Appeal of administrative agency case .....				
Juvenile .....				
Total requests to appeal .....				
Sentence review only .....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Total other cases .....	_____	_____	_____	_____
<hr/>				
Grand total cases .....				
<b>Other proceedings:</b>				
Rehearing requests .....				
Other matters .....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Total other proceedings .....	_____	_____	_____	_____

Manner of disposition

Dismissed/  
withdrawn/ Trans-  
ferred Other

Opinion    Memorandum    Order    settled    ferred    Other

**Appeals:**

Civil .....

Criminal .....

Postconviction .....

Agency .....

Juvenile .....

Total .....

**Original proceedings:**

Original jurisdiction ..

Disciplinary matter ....

Advisory opinion .....

Total .....

**Requests to appeal:**

Civil .....

Criminal .....

Postconviction .....

Agency .....

Juvenile .....

Total .....

Sentence review only .....

Total cases .....

Disposition of cases

Appeals

Post    Sentence

convic-    review

tion    Agency    nile    only

Civil    Criminal    tion    Agency    nile    only

**Opinion:**

Affirmed .....

Modified .....

Reversed .....

Reversed and remanded .....

Remanded .....

**Memorandum decision:**

Affirmed .....

Modified .....

Reversed .....

Reversed and remanded .....

Remanded .....

**Order:**

Affirmed .....

Modified .....

Reversed .....

Reversed and remanded .....

Remanded .....

Time interval data<sup>n</sup> (months/days)

	<u>Notice of appeal to ready for hearing</u>			<u>Ready for hearing to under advisement (submitted or oral argument completed)</u>			<u>Under advisement (submitted or oral argument completed) to decision</u>			<u>Notice of appeal to decision</u>		
	<u>Number of cases</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Median</u>	<u>Number of cases</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Median</u>	<u>Number of cases</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Median</u>	<u>Number of cases</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Median</u>
<b>Appeals:</b>												
Civil .....												
Criminal .....												
Postconviction .....												
Agency .....												
Juvenile .....												
Total appeals .....												
<b>Original proceedings:</b>												
Original jurisdiction .....												
Disciplinary matter .....												
Advisory opinion .....												
Total original proceedings..												
<b>Sentence review only .....</b>												

Disposition of other cases

	<u>Opinion</u>		<u>Memorandum decision</u>		<u>Order</u>	
	<u>Granted</u>	<u>Denied</u>	<u>Granted</u>	<u>Denied</u>	<u>Granted</u>	<u>Denied</u>
<b>Original proceedings:</b>						
Original jurisdiction .....						
Disciplinary matter .....						
Advisory opinion .....						
Total original proceedings .....						
<b>Requests to appeal:</b>						
Civil .....						
Criminal .....						
Postconviction .....						
Agency .....						
Juvenile .....						
Total requests to appeal .....						
Total other cases .....						

Age of pending caseload (days)

	<u>Not ready for hearing</u>						<u>Under advisement</u>						<u>Average age of pending caseload</u>			
	<u>Awaiting court reporter's transcript</u>			<u>Awaiting appellant's brief</u>			<u>Awaiting respondent's brief</u>			<u>Ready for hearing</u>				<u>(submitted or oral argument completed)</u>		
	<u>Over</u>	<u>Over</u>	<u>Over</u>	<u>Over</u>	<u>Over</u>	<u>Over</u>	<u>Over</u>	<u>Over</u>	<u>Over</u>	<u>Over</u>	<u>Over</u>	<u>Over</u>	<u>Over</u>	<u>Over</u>		
	0-60	61-120	120	0-60	61-120	120	0-60	61-120	120	0-90	91-180	180	0-90	91-180	180	
	days	days	days	days	days	days	days	days	days	days	days	days	days	days	days	
<b>Appeals:</b>																
Civil .....																
Criminal .....																
Postconviction .....																
Agency .....																
Juvenile .....																
Total appeals .....																
<b>Original proceedings:</b>																
Original jurisdiction .....																
Disciplinary matter .....																
Advisory opinion .....																
Total original proceedings..																
<b>Requests to appeal:</b>																
Civil .....																
Criminal .....																
Postconviction .....																
Agency .....																
Juvenile .....																
Total requests to appeal ..																
<b>Sentence review only .....</b>																
Total cases .....																

Boldface headings indicate the classifications used by the CSIM project.

<sup>a</sup>Court jurisdiction.

<sup>b</sup>Particular court or reporting system information.

<sup>c</sup>Judge information.

<sup>e</sup>Cases not included in the total to avoid double counting.

<sup>f</sup>Beginning pending figure for the 1981 court year does not equal the end pending figure for the 1980 court year.

<sup>g</sup>Change in pending does not equal the difference between filings and dispositions.

<sup>h</sup>Figure was computed.

<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete.

<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category.

<sup>k</sup>Additional information.

<sup>l</sup>Special source or revision in data.

<sup>m</sup>Information on disposition type or trial data.

<sup>n</sup>Information on time interval or age of pending caseload data.

Source:

(continued on next page)

# Appendix C: Prototype of statistical profile used in 1981 data collection (continued)

STATE NAME, COURT NAME  
 Court of general jurisdiction or court of limited jurisdiction  
 Number of circuits or districts, Number of judges  
 Time period covered

	Beginning pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending
<b>Civil:</b>				
Tort .....				
Auto tort .....				
Professional tort .....				
Product liability tort .....				
Miscellaneous tort .....				
Total tort .....				
Contract .....				
Real property rights .....				
Small claims .....				
Domestic relations:				
Marriage dissolution .....				
Support/custody .....				
Adoption .....				
Paternity/bastardy .....				
Miscellaneous domestic relations .....				
Total domestic relations .....				
Estate:				
Probate/wills/intestate .....				
Guardianship/conservatorship/trusteeship .....				
Miscellaneous estate .....				
Total estate .....				
Mental health .....				
Appeal:				
Appeal of administrative agency case .....				
Appeal of trial court case .....				
Total civil appeals .....				
Miscellaneous civil .....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Total civil .....				
<b>Criminal:</b>				
Felony: .....				
Triable felony .....				
Limited felony .....				
Misdemeanor .....				
Felony/misdemeanor .....				
DWI/DUI .....				
Appeal .....				
Miscellaneous criminal .....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Total criminal .....				
<b>Traffic/other violation:</b>				
Moving traffic violation .....				
Ordinance violation .....				
Parking violation .....				
Miscellaneous traffic .....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Total traffic/other violation .....				
<b>Juvenile:</b>				
Criminal-type offense .....				
Status offense .....				
Child-victim petition .....				
Miscellaneous juvenile .....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Total juvenile .....				
<b>Grand total cases .....</b>				
<b>Other proceedings:</b>				
Postconviction remedy .....				
Preliminary hearings .....				
Sentence review only .....				
Total other proceedings .....				

	<u>Jury</u>	<u>Trial Non-jury</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Civil:</b>			
<b>Tort:</b>			
Auto tort .....			
Professional tort .....			
Product liability tort .....			
Miscellaneous tort .....			
Total tort .....			
Contract .....			
Real property rights .....			
Small claims .....			
<b>Domestic relations:</b>			
Marriage dissolution .....			
Support/custody .....			
Adoption .....			
Paternity/bastardy .....			
Miscellaneous domestic relations ..			
Total domestic relations .....			
<b>Estate:</b>			
Probate/wills/intestate .....			
Guardianship/conservatorship/ trusteeship .....			
Miscellaneous estate .....			
Total estate .....			
Mental health .....			
<b>Appeal:</b>			
Appeal of administrative agency case .....			
Appeal of trial court case .....			
Total civil appeals .....			
Miscellaneous civil .....			
Total civil .....			

	<u>Jury</u>	<u>Trial Non-jury</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Criminal:</b>			
<b>Felony:</b> .....			
Triable felony .....			
Limited felony .....			
Misdemeanor .....			
Felony/misdemeanor .....			
DWI/DUI .....			
Appeal .....			
Miscellaneous criminal .....			
Total criminal .....			
<b>Traffic/other violation:</b>			
Moving traffic .....			
Ordinance violation .....			
Parking violation .....			
Miscellaneous traffic .....			
Total traffic/other violation .....			
<b>Juvenile:</b>			
Criminal-type juvenile petition ..			
Status petition .....			
Child-victim petition .....			
Miscellaneous juvenile .....			
Total juvenile .....			
Grand total trials .....			

Civil dispositions

	<u>Uncontested/Default</u>	<u>Dismissed/ withdrawn/ settled</u>	<u>Transferred</u>	<u>Arbitration</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Civil:</b>					
<b>Tort:</b>					
Auto tort .....					
Professional tort .....					
Product liability tort .....					
Miscellaneous tort .....					
Total tort .....					
Contract .....					
Real property rights .....					
Small claims .....					
<b>Domestic relations:</b>					
Marriage dissolution .....					
Support/custody .....					
Adoption .....					
Paternity/bastardy .....					
Miscellaneous domestic relations ..					
Total domestic relations .....					
<b>Estate:</b>					
Probate/wills/intestate .....					
Guardianship/conservatorship/ trusteeship .....					
Miscellaneous estate .....					
Total estate .....					
Mental health .....					
<b>Appeal:</b>					
Appeal of administrative agency case .....					
Appeal of trial court case .....					
Total civil appeal .....					
Miscellaneous civil .....					
Total civil .....					

(continued on next page)

# Appendix C: Prototype of statistical profile used in 1981 data collection (continued)

## Criminal dispositions

	<u>Felony</u>	<u>Misdemeanor</u>	<u>DWI/DUI</u>	<u>Appeal</u>	<u>Miscellaneous criminal</u>	<u>Total</u>
Jury trial:						
Conviction .....						
Guilty plea .....						
Acquittal .....						
Dismissed .....						
Non-jury trial:						
Conviction .....						
Guilty plea .....						
Acquittal .....						
Dismissed .....						
Dismissed/nolle prosequi .						
Bail forfeiture .....						
Bound over .....						
Transferred .....						
Other .....						
Total dispositions .....						

## Traffic/other violation dispositions

	<u>Moving traffic violation</u>	<u>Ordinance violation</u>	<u>Parking</u>	<u>Miscellaneous traffic/other violation</u>	<u>Total</u>
Jury trial:					
Conviction .....					
Acquittal .....					
Non-jury trial:					
Conviction .....					
Acquittal .....					
Guilty plea .....					
Dismissed/nolle prosequi .					
Bail forfeiture .....					
Parking fines .....					
Transferred .....					
Other .....					
Total .....					

## Age of pending caseload (days)

	<u>0-30 days</u>	<u>31-60 days</u>	<u>61-90 days</u>	<u>91-180 days</u>	<u>181-360 days</u>	<u>361-720 days</u>	<u>Over 720 days</u>	<u>Average age of pending cases</u>
<b>Civil:</b>								
<b>Tort:</b>								
Auto tort .....								
Professional tort .....								
Product liability tort .....								
Miscellaneous tort .....								
Total tort .....								
<b>Contract .....</b>								
<b>Real property rights .....</b>								
<b>Small claims .....</b>								
<b>Domestic relations:</b>								
Marriage dissolution .....								
Support/custody .....								
Adoption .....								
Paternity/bastardy .....								
Miscellaneous domestic relations .								
Total domestic relations .....								
<b>Estate:</b>								
Probate/wills/intestate .....								
Guardianship/conservatorship/ trusteeship .....								
Miscellaneous estate .....								
Total estate .....								
<b>Mental health .....</b>								
<b>Appeal:</b>								
Appeal of administrative agency case .....								
Appeal of trial court case .....								
Total appeal .....								
<b>Miscellaneous civil .....</b>								
<b>Total civil .....</b>								



	Age of pending caseload (days)							Average age of pending cases
	0-30 <u>days</u>	31-60 <u>days</u>	61-90 <u>days</u>	91-180 <u>days</u>	181-360 <u>days</u>	361-720 <u>days</u>	Over 720 <u>days</u>	
<b>Criminal:</b>								
<b>Felony</b> .....								
<b>Triable felony</b> .....								
<b>Limited felony</b> .....								
<b>Misdemeanor</b> .....								
<b>Felony/misdemeanor</b> .....								
<b>DWI/DUI</b> .....								
<b>Appeal</b> .....								
<b>Miscellaneous criminal</b> .....								
<b>Total criminal</b> .....								
<b>Traffic/other violation:</b>								
<b>Moving traffic</b> .....								
<b>Ordinance violation</b> .....								
<b>Parking violation</b> .....								
<b>Miscellaneous traffic</b> .....								
<b>Total traffic/other violation</b> .....								
<b>Juvenile:</b>								
<b>Criminal-type juvenile petition</b> ..								
<b>Status petition</b> .....								
<b>Child-victim petition</b> .....								
<b>Miscellaneous juvenile</b> .....								
<b>Total juvenile</b> .....								

Boldface headings indicate the classifications used by the CSIM project.  
 N/A = This case type is handled by the court, but the data are unavailable.  
 X = The data for this case type are known to be included in the total but are unavailable by category.  
 -- = Not applicable.

**Units of count:**  
 Civil unit of count.  
 Criminal unit of count.  
 Traffic/other violation unit of count.  
 Juvenile unit of count.

**Trial definitions:**  
 Jury trial definition.  
 Non-jury trial definition.

<sup>a</sup>Court jurisdiction.  
<sup>b</sup>Particular court or reporting system information.  
<sup>c</sup>Judge information.  
<sup>f</sup>Beginning pending figure for the 1981 court year does not equal the end pending figure for the 1980 court year.  
<sup>g</sup>Change in pending does not equal the difference between filings and dispositions.  
<sup>h</sup>Figure was computed.  
<sup>i</sup>Data are incomplete.  
<sup>j</sup>Explanation of data included in the category.  
<sup>k</sup>Additional information.  
<sup>l</sup>Special source or revision in the data.  
<sup>m</sup>Information on disposition type or trial data.  
<sup>n</sup>Information on age of pending caseload data.

Source:

## Appendix D: State population data, 1981

State or territory	Population (in thousands)		Total
	Juvenile	Adult	
Alabama .....	1,145	2,772	3,917
Alaska .....	133	279	412
Arizona .....	801	1,993	2,794
Arkansas .....	662	1,634	2,296
California .....	6,412	17,784	24,196
Colorado .....	812	2,153	2,965
Connecticut .....	801	2,333	3,134
Delaware .....	162	436	598
District of Columbia .....	139	492	631
Florida .....	2,414	7,769	10,183
Georgia .....	1,644	3,930	5,574
Guam .....	44	62	106
Hawaii .....	278	703	981
Idaho .....	309	650	959
Illinois .....	3,192	8,270	11,462
Indiana .....	1,575	3,893	5,468
Iowa .....	806	2,093	2,899
Kansas .....	645	1,738	2,383
Kentucky .....	1,060	2,602	3,662
Louisiana .....	1,343	2,965	4,308
Maine .....	315	818	1,133
Maryland .....	1,142	3,121	4,263
Massachusetts .....	1,450	4,323	5,773
Michigan .....	2,665	6,539	9,204
Minnesota .....	1,145	2,949	4,094
Mississippi .....	803	1,728	2,531
Missouri .....	1,340	3,601	4,941
Montana .....	230	563	793
Nebraska .....	443	1,134	1,577
Nevada .....	223	622	845
New Hampshire .....	256	680	936
New Jersey .....	1,942	5,462	7,404
New Mexico .....	418	910	1,328
New York .....	4,581	13,021	17,602
North Carolina .....	1,633	4,320	5,953
North Dakota .....	190	468	658
Ohio .....	3,024	7,757	10,781
Oklahoma .....	865	2,235	3,100
Oregon .....	718	1,933	2,651
Pennsylvania .....	3,049	8,822	11,871
Puerto Rico .....	1,221	1,976	3,197
Rhode Island .....	237	716	953
South Carolina .....	932	2,235	3,167
South Dakota .....	202	484	686
Tennessee .....	1,276	3,336	4,612
Texas .....	4,410	10,356	14,766
Utah .....	564	954	1,518
Vermont .....	143	373	516
Virginia .....	1,453	3,977	5,430
Washington .....	1,143	3,074	4,217
West Virginia .....	552	1,400	1,952
Wisconsin .....	1,334	3,408	4,742
Wyoming .....	152	340	492

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, series P-25, No. 913 for everything except Guam and Puerto Rico. General Population Characteristics for Guam, PC 80-1-B. General Population Characteristics for Puerto Rico, PC 80-1-B.

## Other publications from the Court Statistics and Information Management Project.

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Available from the National Center for State Courts:

### State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1976-1979

Each of these four volumes (1976-1979) has available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts. 1980-1984, paperback, \$12.50 each volume, plus shipping.

### State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1980

Available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts are presented in this report. 1984, 494 pages, 48 oz., paperback, \$18.00, plus shipping.

### Court Case Management Information Systems Manual

This manual reviews local and statewide case management information requirements and presents sets of model data elements, data collection forms and case management output reports for each level of court. 1983, 342 pages, 29 oz., paperback, \$15.00, plus shipping.

### The Business of State Trial Courts

Defining courts business as cases filed, serious cases, and contested cases, this monograph tests six myths about courts, their work and decisions. 1983, 158 pages, 14 oz., paperback, \$10.00, plus shipping.

The following publication may be ordered from the Court Statistics and Information Management Project, 300 Newport Avenue, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8798:

### State Court Model Annual Report

Suggested formats to be used in preparing state court annual reports. Discusses topics to be considered for inclusion in court reports. 1980, 88 pages. Single copies available free of charge.

Available from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service, Box 6000, Rockville, MD 20850:

### State Court Model Statistical Dictionary

Contains definitions of terms used to classify and count court caseload. Gives the court statistical usage for each term. 129 pages. Also ask for the 1984 Supplement, 81 pages. Single copies available free of charge.

### State Court Organization, 1980

A reference for information on court management and administration in the 50 states and 5 territories. Contains individual state profiles and summary tables on topics including court organization and jurisdiction; judicial compensation, qualifications, and selection; juries; and the functions of the administrative office of the courts. 537 pages. Single copies available free of charge.

Available from the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106:

### State Court Statistics, 1978-1980

These are the machine-readable data reported in the State Court Caseload Statistics annual report series. There are five datasets: appellate court caseload inventory, trial court caseload inventory, criminal dispositions, civil dispositions and traffic dispositions.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS  
Court Statistics and Information Management Project

USER EVALUATION  
State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report, 1981

Dear Reader:

The Court Statistics and Information Management Project is interested in your comments and suggestions about this Report. We have provided this form for whatever opinions you wish to express. Please cut out both of these pages, staple them together, and mail to the preprinted address.

Thank you for your help.

1. For what purpose did you use this report?

2. For that purpose, the report-  Met most of my needs  
 Met some of my needs  Met none of my needs

3. How will this report be useful to you?

Data source  Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Teaching material \_\_\_\_\_  
 Reference for article or report  Will not be useful to me  
 General information (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Criminal justice program planning \_\_\_\_\_

4. Which parts of the report, if any, were difficult to understand or use?  
How could they be improved?

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 Operations or management planner/evaluator/analyst

12. Additional comments

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