

20  
24

# ANNUAL REPORT

THE DELAWARE JUDICIARY



LEONARD L. WILLIAMS JUSTICE CENTER







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## VISION

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Equal justice through transparency, integrity, innovation, and judicial branch independence.

## MISSION

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To provide access to fair and effective justice in a safe and transparent environment through a diverse, inclusive, and dedicated workforce.







## MESSAGE FROM **Chief Justice Collins J. Seitz, Jr.**



On behalf of the Court, I am pleased to present our 2024 Annual Report. You will notice that we have a new format for the report this year, one that is more accessible and informative and better explains what the Delaware Judiciary does every day. It highlights the extraordinary work of Judicial Branch judges and employees who are responsible for keeping the wheels of justice turning for the citizens of Delaware and beyond.

### A Few Highlights from 2024:

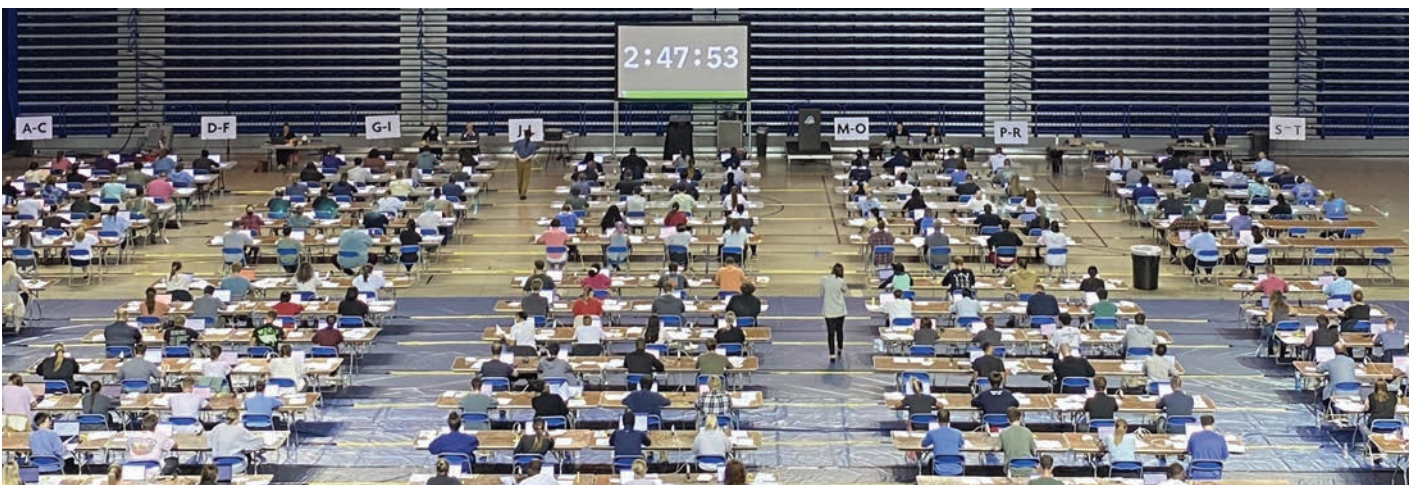
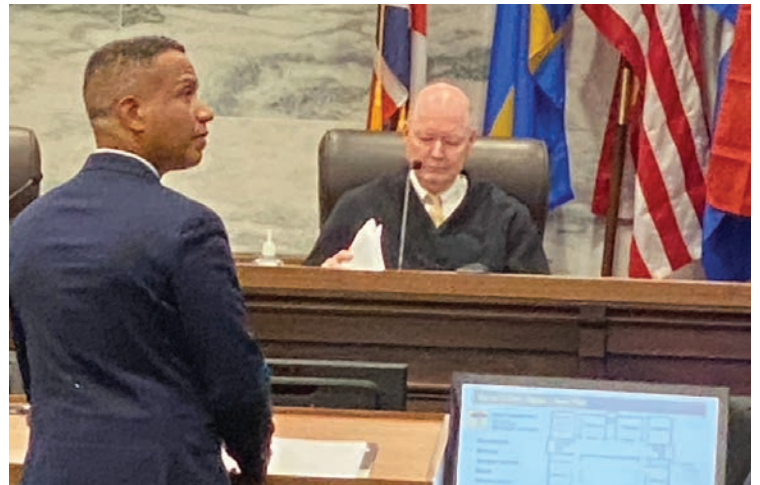
- Released a two-year update showing the great strides made to implement the recommendations from the 2022 Delaware Bench and Bar Diversity Project.
- Improved outreach and engagement with elementary and high school students through the Delaware Law Related Education Center (DELREC).
- Adopted the pilot cell phone policy, permanently allowing the public to bring their personal electronic devices into our courthouses.
- Enhanced and continued summer internship programs in the courts for Delaware students.
- Instituted a February administration of the Delaware Bar examination.
- Expanded the Supreme Court "on the road" to include holding oral arguments at Delaware Technical Community College in Sussex County in addition to our traditional visit to Delaware Law School.
- Celebrated the 70th anniversary of the *Brown v. Board* decision with several events, including a reenactment of a part of a Delaware case that was central to the landmark ruling.
- Launched the CASCADE Initiative to bring electronic case filing and management to all courts.
- Continued construction on two new Family Court Courthouses and started on the Custom House renovation and expansion.

I am honored to serve the courts and the State as your Chief Justice. We've started so many great projects. Let's continue our work to realize our goal to provide equal justice to all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Collins J. Seitz Jr." in a cursive style.

Collins J. Seitz, Jr.  
Chief Justice of Delaware

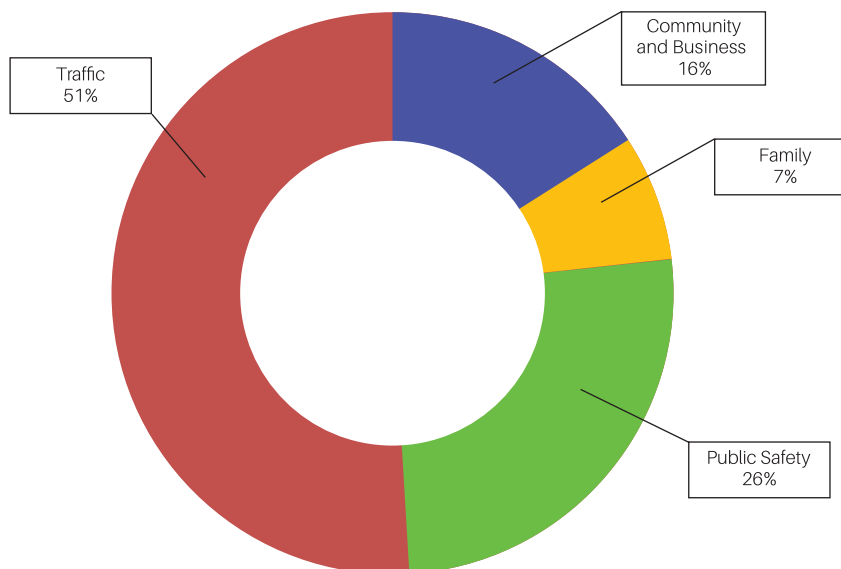






# THE DELAWARE COURT SYSTEM

Case Type as a Share of All Court Filings Fiscal Year 2023



## Legislation

The Judiciary's legislative team brings together representatives of the Courts and the Administrative Office of the Courts to enhance the effectiveness of the Judicial Branch's relationship with the General Assembly by serving as the main Judicial Branch contact for legislative matters and by monitoring and analyzing legislation for impact on the Judiciary. The following legislation supported by the Judicial Branch was passed during FY 24 by the 152<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly:

### Bill Number

### Description

<b>HB 86</b>	This Act establishes a right to counsel for indigent parents in DSCYF custody proceedings. Parent representation will primarily be provided by a legal services entity contracted with the Family Court, but may also be provided by the Office of Defense Services or a private attorney appointed by the Court.
<b>SS 1 for SB 174</b>	This Act adds Justices of the Peace, Commissioners in Superior Court, Family Court, Court of Common Pleas, and Magistrates in Chancery to the State Judicial Pension Plan.
<b>SB 282</b>	<i>Fees and fines reform.</i> This Act repeals the Senior Trust Fund Fee, the Interstate Compact Fee, and the Substance Abuse, Rehabilitation, Treatment, Education and Prevention (SARTEP) Fund Fee imposed on criminal defendants.
<b>SB 283</b>	<i>Fees and fines reform.</i> This Act repeals the DELJIS Fund fee imposed on criminal defendants.
<b>SB 284</b>	<i>Fees and fines reform.</i> This Act discharges balances owed by individuals ordered to pay a probation supervision fee under § 6504(14) of Title 11 of the Delaware Code or a Public Defender fee under § 4607 of Title 29 of the Delaware Code.
<b>SB 285</b>	This Act eliminates the requirement that Justice of the Peace Court constables reside within the State of Delaware.
<b>SB 291</b>	This Act removes the registration of trade names for sole proprietorships, partnerships, and associations in the Superior Court prothonotaries and places registration of such trade names with the Division of Revenue.



# THE DELAWARE COURT SYSTEM

*The Delaware Judicial Branch consists of the Supreme Court, the Court of Chancery, the Superior Court, the Family Court, the Court of Common Pleas, the Justice of the Peace Court, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and related non-judicial agencies.*

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## **Supreme Court**

- Court of Last Resort
- Final appellate jurisdiction for most criminal cases, civil cases, certain orders of the Court of Chancery, the Superior Court, and Family Court
- Issuer of certain writs
- Jurisdiction over questions of law certified to the courts

## **Court of Chancery**

- Equity Court
- Hears all cases in equity (typically corporate, trust, fiduciary matters, land sale, real estate, and commercial /contractual matters)
- Certain guardianship cases

## **Superior Court**

- Law Court
- Original statewide jurisdiction over all criminal and civil cases (except equity)
- Exclusive jurisdiction over nearly all felonies and drug offenses
- Intermediate appellate court from Court of Common Pleas, Family Court (adult criminal) and various state agencies, boards and commissions

## **Family Court**

- Legal and equitable jurisdiction over all domestic relations cases, including divorce, custody, guardianships, adoptions, visitation, child and spousal support and property division
- Jurisdiction over all juvenile offenses except certain serious offenses

## **Court of Common Pleas**

- All criminal misdemeanors (except certain drug offenses) and motor vehicle offenses (except felonies)
- Responsible for preliminary hearings
- Statewide jurisdiction in civil actions that do not exceed \$75,000
- Appeals from the Justice of the Peace Court, Alderman's Court and Division of Motor Vehicles

## **Justice of the Peace Court**

- Statewide jurisdiction over civil cases that do not exceed \$25,000
- Jurisdiction over certain misdemeanors and motor vehicle cases (except felonies)
- Jurisdiction over landlord/tenant (possession) cases
- Generally sets bail in most cases



# FISCAL OVERVIEW





# FISCAL OVERVIEW

## Summary of Judicial Budget Fiscal Years 2023-2025 General Funds

	FY 2023 Enacted Budget	FY 2024 Enacted Budget	FY 2025 Enacted Budget
Supreme Court	\$3,978,200	\$4,253,600	\$4,475,000
Court of Chancery	\$4,597,200	\$4,850,900	\$5,837,500
Superior Court	\$27,873,200	\$30,040,900	\$31,839,000
Family Court	\$22,284,400	\$23,276,600	\$25,268,200
Court of Common Pleas	\$11,389,400	\$12,069,800	\$13,032,300
Justice of the Peace Court	\$20,858,500	\$21,996,000	\$24,367,900
Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)	\$4,482,400	\$4,777,100	\$5,040,100
AOC Custodial Pass Through Funds*	\$3,035,100	\$3,135,100	\$4,785,100
Office of State Court Collections Enforcement	\$633,800	\$670,300	\$721,100
Information Technology	\$4,059,800	\$4,426,500	\$4,625,400
Law Libraries	\$463,000	\$476,400	\$494,900
Office of the Public Guardian	\$820,900	\$858,000	\$914,000
Office of the Child Advocate	\$3,168,800	\$3,513,300	\$3,768,600
Maternal and Child Death Review Commission**	\$463,700	\$485,700	\$517,500
DE Nursing Home Residents Quality Assurance Commission	\$89,900	\$93,800	\$193,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$108,198,300</b>	<b>\$114,924,000</b>	<b>\$125,880,500</b>

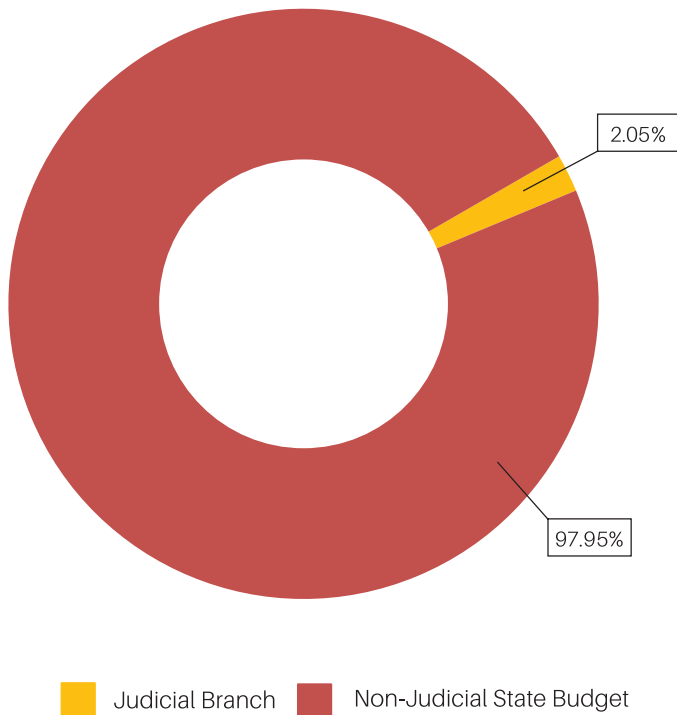
\* Pass Through programs are included in AOC funding: the Superior Court Appointed Attorney Program, Court Interpreter Program, Victim Offender Alternative Case Resolution (formerly Victim Offender Mediation Program), Elder Law Program, Law Related Education and other funds. In FY 25 a new pass through called "Right to Representation," was added. Technology Maintenance consists of pass-through funding to other state departments and vendors for equipment and services Branch-wide.

\*\* The Child Death Review Commission was renamed the Maternal and Child Death Review Commission with the passage of HB 340 of the 151<sup>st</sup> General Assembly.

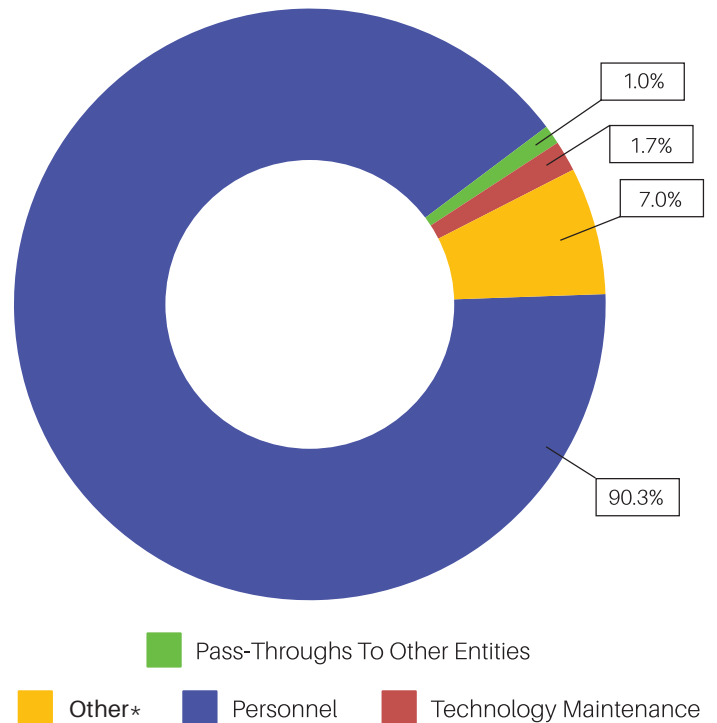


# FISCAL OVERVIEW

## The Judiciary's Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriation is 2.05% of the State General Fund Budget



## Fiscal Year 2024 Judicial Budget Breakdown



\* Includes contracted services, supplies and materials, travel and other operational expenses.

## State of Delaware - Fiscal Year 2024

Breakdown of General Fund Appropriations		
Public Education	\$ 1,985,539,400	35.41%
Health and Social Services	\$ 1,496,077,800	26.68%
Correction	\$ 395,640,100	7.06%
Higher Education	\$ 276,531,900	4.93%
Children, Youth and Their Families	\$ 210,445,100	3.75%
Safety and Homeland Security	\$ 180,192,700	3.21%
<b>Judicial Branch</b>	<b>\$114,924,000</b>	<b>2.05%</b>
All Other	\$ 947,365,700	16.90%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,606,716,700</b>	<b>100.00%*</b>

\* Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.



# FISCAL OVERVIEW

## Judicial Branch Appropriations - Fiscal Year 2024

General Funds By Court Or Unit		
Supreme Court	\$ 4,253,600	3.70%
Court of Chancery	\$4,850,900	4.22%
Superior Court	\$ 30,040,900	26.14%
Family Court	\$ 23,276,600	20.25%
Court of Common Pleas	\$ 12,069,800	10.50%
Justice of the Peace Court	\$ 21,996,000	19.14%
Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)	\$ 4,777,100	4.16%
AOC Pass Through Funds*	\$ 3,135,100	2.73%
Office of State Court Collections Enforcement	\$ 670,300	0.58%
Information Technology	\$ 4,426,500	3.85%
Law Libraries	\$ 476,400	0.41%
Other**	\$ 4,950,800	4.31%
<b>Total***</b>	<b>\$ 114,924,000</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

\*AOC Pass Through Funds consist of Appointed Attorneys/Involuntary Commitment, Court Interpreters, Victim Offender Alternative Case Resolution (formerly known as Victim Offender Mediation Program), Elder Law Program, Technology Maintenance, Law Related Education and other funds.

\*\* Other: Office of the Public Guardian, Office of the Child Advocate, Maternal and Child Death Review Commission, and Delaware Nursing Home Residents Quality Assurance Commission.

\*\*\* Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.



# FISCAL OVERVIEW

## Court Generated Revenue\* - Fiscal Year 2024 Submitted to the General Fund

	Fees and Costs	Fines	Interest***	Miscellaneous	Total
Supreme Court	\$103,756	—	—	—	\$ 103,756
Court of Chancery	\$1,145,813	—	—	—	\$ 1,145,813
Superior Court	\$2,776,178	\$114,631	\$ 8,146	\$58,109	\$ 2,957,064
Family Court	\$74,874	\$12,994	—	\$8,249	\$ 96,117
Court of Common Pleas	\$1,224,837	\$280,017	—	\$15,900	\$ 1,520,754
Justice of the Peace Court	\$1,750,357	\$1,535,664	—	\$ 30,872	\$ 3,316,893
Office of State Court Collections - DOC fees**	\$ 348,179	—	—	—	\$ 348,179
<b>State Total</b>	<b>\$7,423,994</b>	<b>\$1,943,306</b>	<b>\$8,146</b>	<b>\$ 113,130</b>	<b>\$9,488,576</b>

## Submitted to Counties and Municipalities

Counties and Municipalities	Fees and Costs	Fines	Interest** *	Miscellaneous	Total
Superior Court	\$54,744	\$19,827	—	—	\$ 74,571
Family Court	—	\$1,113	—	—	\$ 1,113
Court of Common Pleas	—	\$157,022	—	—	\$ 157,022
Justice of the Peace Court	—	\$2,038,608	—	—	\$ 2,038,608
<b>Counties and Municipalities Total</b>	<b>\$54,744</b>	<b>\$2,216,570</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>\$ 2,271,314</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$7,478,738</b>	<b>\$4,159,876</b>	<b>\$8,146</b>	<b>\$113,130</b>	<b>\$11,759,890</b>

\* Figures represent revenue actually received, not the total amount of fines and costs assessed. Figures include funds authorized in the Budget Act for the Court of Common Pleas and the FY 24 Fee Increase Spending Plan (HB 195, Sections 41 and 48). Court-generated revenue for this table does not include most criminal statutory assessments collected by the Courts on behalf of other agencies or entities, such as the Fund to Combat Violent Crime or the Videophone Fund.

\*\* The Office of State Court Collections (OSCC) collected probationary fees on behalf of the Department of Correction (DOC). The assessment of DOC Supervision Fees was eliminated in April 2023 with the implementation of HB 244 with HA 2 of the 151<sup>st</sup> General Assembly and the discharge of outstanding balances was authorized by SB 284 of the 152<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly effective August 2024.

\*\*\* From bail bond deposits.

# FISCAL OVERVIEW

## Statutory Assessments Collected by the Courts

Criminal Only	
Court Security Fee*	\$ 1,179,723
Drug Diversion Fee	\$ 7,431
Drug Ed/Rehab SARTEP* *	\$ 19,532
DELJIS	\$ 117,284
Fund to Combat Violent Crime (State)	\$ 857,059
Fund to Combat Violent Crime (Local)	\$ 855,594
Senior Trust Fund* *	\$ 11,171
Voluntary Ambulance Fund	\$ 1,089,948
Victim Compensation	\$ 1,204,794
Victim Rights Fund	\$ 21,614
Video Phone Fee	\$ 105,945
Transportation Trust Fund	\$ 1,978,305
Civil Red Light	\$ 16,372
Statutory Transfers from Court Fees to DelDOT	
Inspection and Maintenance	\$ 2,430,217
DMVT Fund***	\$ 36,770

\* Revenue from Court Security totals \$1,609,972 when civil collections are included with the criminal collections. Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

\*\* SARTEP is the Substance Rehabilitation, Treatment Coordination Prevention and Education Fund. This fee - along with the Senior Trust Fund fee- was eliminated with the passage of SB 282 in the 152<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly.

\*\*\* Title 21, section 2118, motor vehicle insurance requirement.



# FISCAL OVERVIEW

General Funds and Appropriated Special Funds Percent of Budget from Criminal Fees and Fines	
Judicial GF FY 24 Budget	\$ 114,924,000
Judicial ASF FY 24 Budget	\$ 13,684,900
Total GF + ASF FY 24 Budget	\$ 128,608,900
Authority from Criminal Fees and Fines *	\$ 1,242,272
Criminal Fees and Fines as a Percent of the total Judicial Branch Budget	0.97%

\* Criminal only. Includes only those collections which are retained by the Judicial Branch.

Appropriated Special Funds (ASF) are derived from fees that are collected and designated for a specific purpose. Most court collections listed in the table on page 13 support programs outside of the Judicial Branch.

There are additional ASF revenues which are indirectly associated with fines and fees, primarily civil. Specifically, there is an ASF line called "Judicial Services" for \$2,050,000 in FY 2024, which was appropriated in connection with a previous increase in fees. Most of those fees were Civil, although there is one fee which can be either Civil or Criminal.

Section 1 and Section 41 of the FY 2024 Budget Act (HB 195 of the 152<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly) appropriated ASF funds to the Court of Chancery and the Court of Common Pleas through the budget process, which is tied to nonspecific fees. The Court of Chancery fines and fees are civil, and the Court of Common Pleas fines and fees may be civil or criminal. These funds are not included in the table above as they are not directly tied to any criminal collections.

# FISCAL OVERVIEW

## Total Criminal Collections by Type and Recipient Fiscal Year 2024

Recipient of Collections	Fines	Fees and Costs	Assessments	Restitution	Total	Total Criminal: Recipient Breakdown
Courts	—	\$ 62,549	\$ 1,179,723	—	\$ 1,242,272	6.99%
State General Fund	\$ 2,324,665	\$ 903,340	—	—	\$ 3,228,005	18.15%
Counties/Municipalities Including Statutory Funds	\$ 2,198,800	\$ 51,066	\$ 1,945,541	—	\$ 4,195,407	23.59%
Statutory Fund	\$ 4,777	\$ 2,423,981	\$ 4,339,508	—	\$ 6,768,266	38.06%
Victims	—	—	—	\$ 2,347,879	\$ 2,347,879	13.20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,528,243</b>	<b>\$ 3,440,937</b>	<b>\$ 7,464,772</b>	<b>\$ 2,347,879</b>	<b>\$ 17,781,831</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

The above represents the criminal court collections from our criminal courts: Superior Court, Family Court, Court of Common Pleas, and the Justice of the Peace Court. Much of the above is not defined as court revenue, but rather as court collections which is technically revenue for the State or other entities. Definitions are not intended to be all inclusive.

**Fines:** Includes state fines, town fines, criminal fines, DUI fines, and forensic fines.

**Fees and Costs:** Includes court costs, extradition, kiosks Public Defender (PD) fees, and drug diversion fees and capias. Certain fees, such as the PD fee, and Voluntary Assessment Center late fees and e-payment fees were eliminated in April 2023 with the implementation of HB 244 with HA 2 of the 151<sup>st</sup> General Assembly.

**Assessments:** Includes Court Security, Senior Trust Fund, Victim Rights, Victim Compensation, Drug Ed/Rehab Substance Abuse (SARTEP), Civil Penalty/Drug Diversion, Transportation Trust Fund Surcharge, Voluntary Ambulance Fund, the DELJIS Fund, the Videophone Fund, and the Fund to Combat Violent Crime. The Senior Trust Fund fee and the SARTEP fee were eliminated with the passage of SB 282 of the 152<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly.

Revenues for the Volunteer Ambulance Company Fund and the Fund to Combat Violent Crimes (Local) are pass throughs from State agencies or commissions to municipalities or local entities. They are reported under "Counties/Municipalities including Statutory Funds."



# FISCAL OVERVIEW

## Collections Assistance by the Office of State Court Collections Enforcement on Behalf of Courts and Agencies\*

Superior Court	\$ 1,126,882
Family Court	\$ 175,027
Court of Common Pleas	\$ 142,286
Justice of the Peace Court	\$ 79,101
OSCCE Receivables	\$ 948,279
DOC	\$ 348,179
Court of Chancery	\$ 2,921
Child Support	\$ 101,654
<b>OSCCE Assistance Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,924,329</b>

\* The figures represent all efforts made by the Office of State Court Collections (OSCCE) on behalf of the Delaware Judicial Branch. These figures, in large part, overlap with the amounts collected by the various courts and agencies, and should not be considered additional. Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

## Court Generated Revenue - Fiscal Year 2024 Restitution\*

	Assessed	Collected	Disbursed
Superior Court	\$ 5,458,869	\$ 845,154	\$ 974,317
Family Court	\$ 150,922	\$ 72,940	\$ 72,375
Court of Common Pleas	\$ 1,171,211	\$ 464,402	\$ 461,462
Justice of the Peace Court	\$ 14,987	\$ 19,351	\$ 17,598
Office of State Court Collections Enforcement	—	\$ 946,033	\$ 864,039
<b>Restitution Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,795,989</b>	<b>\$ 2,347,880</b>	<b>\$ 2,389,791</b>

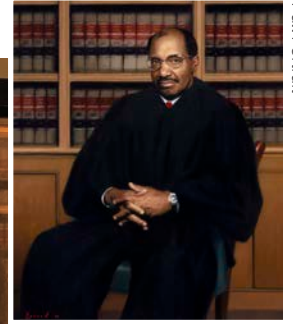
\* Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

# DELAWARE JUDICIARY HIGHLIGHTS

WHITE HOUSE PHOTO



- Chief Justice Collins J. Seitz, Jr. (center) with President Joseph R. Biden and First Lady Jill Biden at the White House where he accepted the Presidential Citizens Medal on behalf of his late father, former Chancellor Collins J. Seitz Sr., 1/02/25.



Full Portrait

- Portrait of the Hon. Leonard L. Williams unveiled at the Leonard L. Williams Justice Center, 5/13/24.



- Delaware hosts 48 teams from across the country in the 2024 National High School Mock Trial competition, 5/6/24.



- Wilmington Charter School repeats as 2024 Delaware High School Mock Trial champions, 2/26/24.



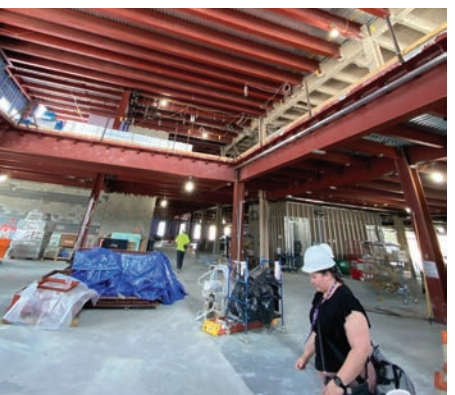
- Graduation of the second cohort in the Delaware Judicial Branch Supervisor Series, 5/28/2024.



# SUSSEX COUNTY FAMILY COURT PROGRESS



Tevebaugh Rendering



Estimated Completion: Spring 2026

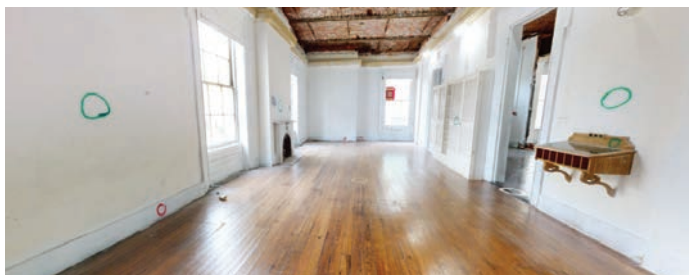


# KENT COUNTY FAMILY COURT PROGRESS



Estimated Completion: Winter 2026

# CUSTOM HOUSE PROGRESS



Drone images, and interiors and rendering of Custom House, Tevebaugh

Estimated Completion: Winter 2026



# COURTHOUSE VISITORS



## LEONARD L. WILLIAMS JUSTICE CENTER

**452,252** Screened at Main Security Entrance



## KENT COUNTY COURTHOUSE

**97,568** Screened at Main Security Entrance



## KENT COUNTY FAMILY COURT BUILDING

**81,216** Screened at Main Security Entrance



## DELAWARE SUPREME COURT

**2,190** Screened at Main Security Entrance



## SUSSEX COUNTY COURTHOUSE

**81,380** Screened at Main Security Entrance



## SUSSEX COUNTY FAMILY COURT BUILDING

**79,867** Screened at Main Security Entrance



## SUSSEX COUNTY COURT OF CHANCERY

**6,736** Screened at Main Security Entrance



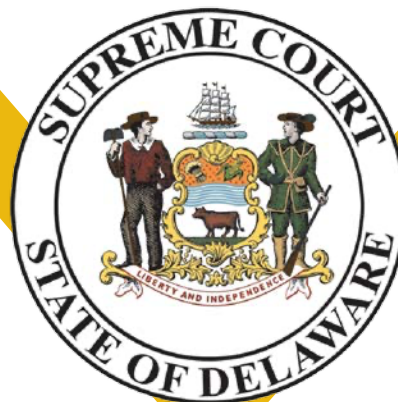
# THE COURTS







The **Supreme Court** is the State's appellate court which receives direct appeals from the Court of Chancery, the Superior Court, and the Family Court. As administrative head of the courts, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in consultation with the other justices, sets administrative policy for the court system. The Supreme Court is created by the Constitution of Delaware, Article IV, Section 1. The Supreme Court sits in Dover.



# Supreme Court

## Chief Justice Collins J. Seitz, Jr.

### *By the Numbers*



#### **SUPREME COURT**

- Justices - 5
- Court Staff - 28

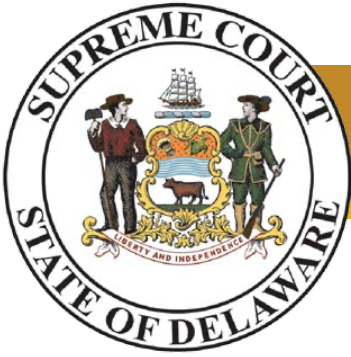
TOTAL: 33



#### **ARMS OF THE COURT**

- Full Time Staff - 10

TOTAL: 10



# SUPREME COURT

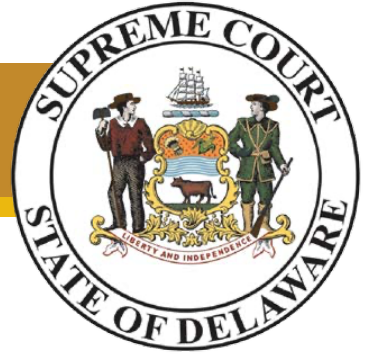


## Supreme Court Justices

### Left to Right:

Justice Abigail M. LeGrow • Justice Karen L. Valihura • Chief Justice Collins J. Seitz, Jr. •  
Justice Gary F. Traynor • Justice N. Christopher Griffiths

# SUPREME COURT



## Supreme Court

## 2024 Highlights

- Chief Disciplinary Counsel David White retired from the Office of Disciplinary Counsel effective November 2024. The court thanks him for his service and wishes him well on his next endeavor.
- Disciplinary Counsel Kathleen M. Vavala stepped down in May 2024 to accept her nomination to the Delaware Superior Court. The court thanks her for her service with the office.

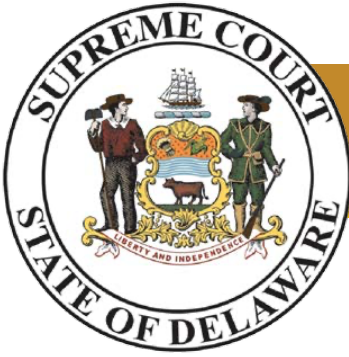


- Justice Abigail LeGrow spoke to a class from the University of Delaware's Biden School of Public Policy on Oct. 1, 2024.



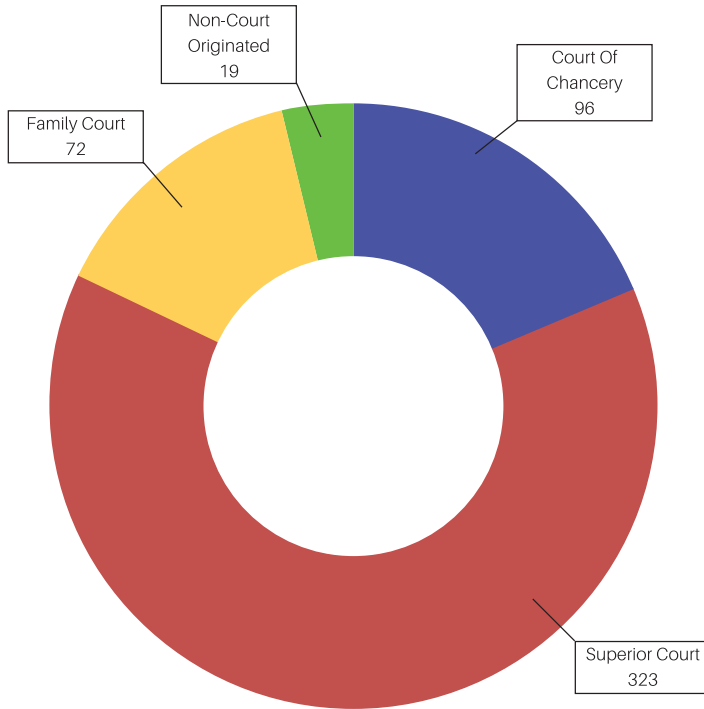
- The Delaware Supreme Court met for the first time in Sussex County on March 19, 2024 to hear oral arguments before an audience of high school and college students.



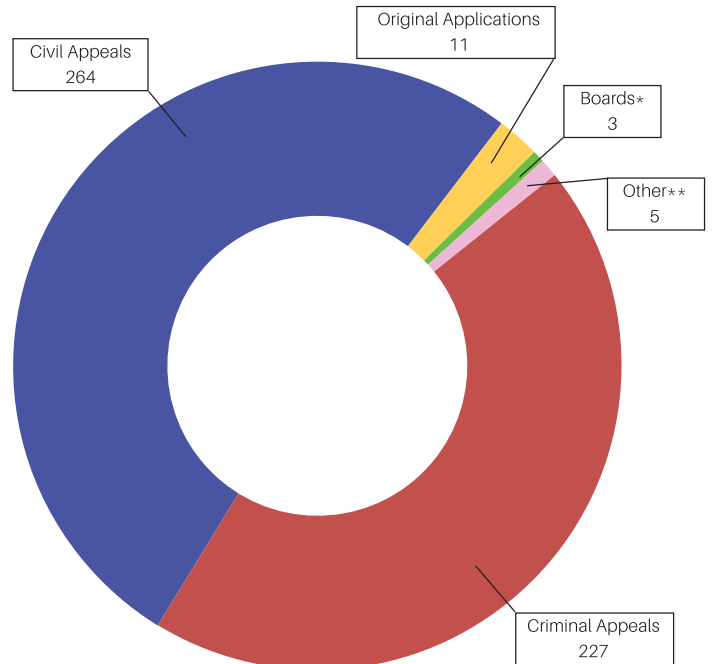


# SUPREME COURT

**Number of Supreme Court Filings by Court of Origination Fiscal Year 2024**

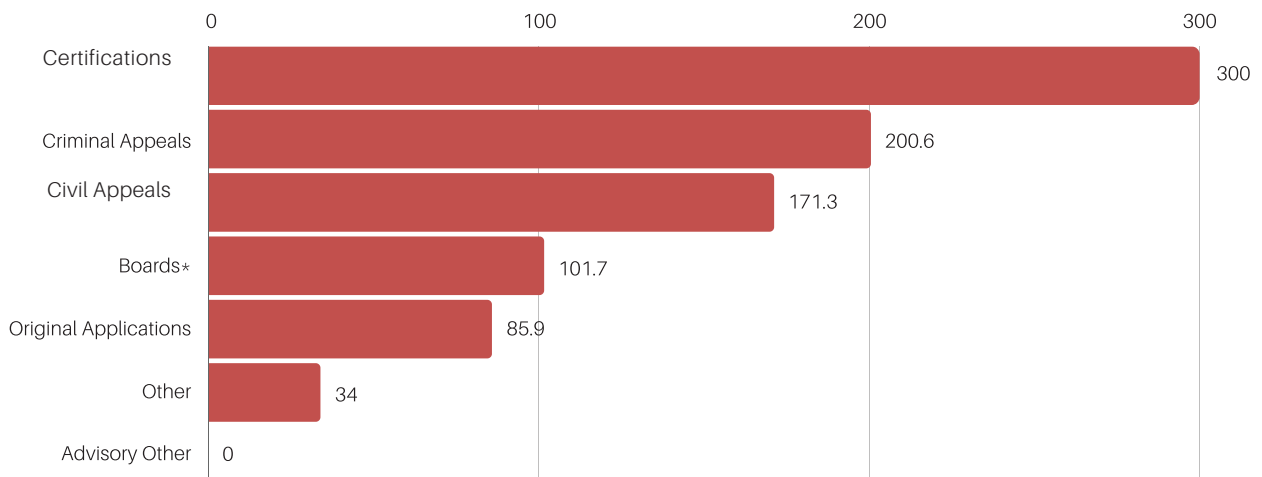


**Number of Supreme Court Filings by Type Fiscal Year 2024**



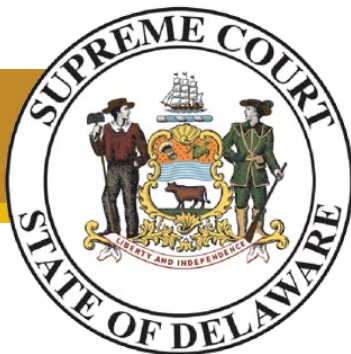
\* Includes the Board on Professional Responsibility and the Board of Bar Examiners.  
\*\* Includes four certifications and one other.

**Supreme Court Fiscal Year 2024  
Average Number of Days from  
Filing to Disposition by Case Type**

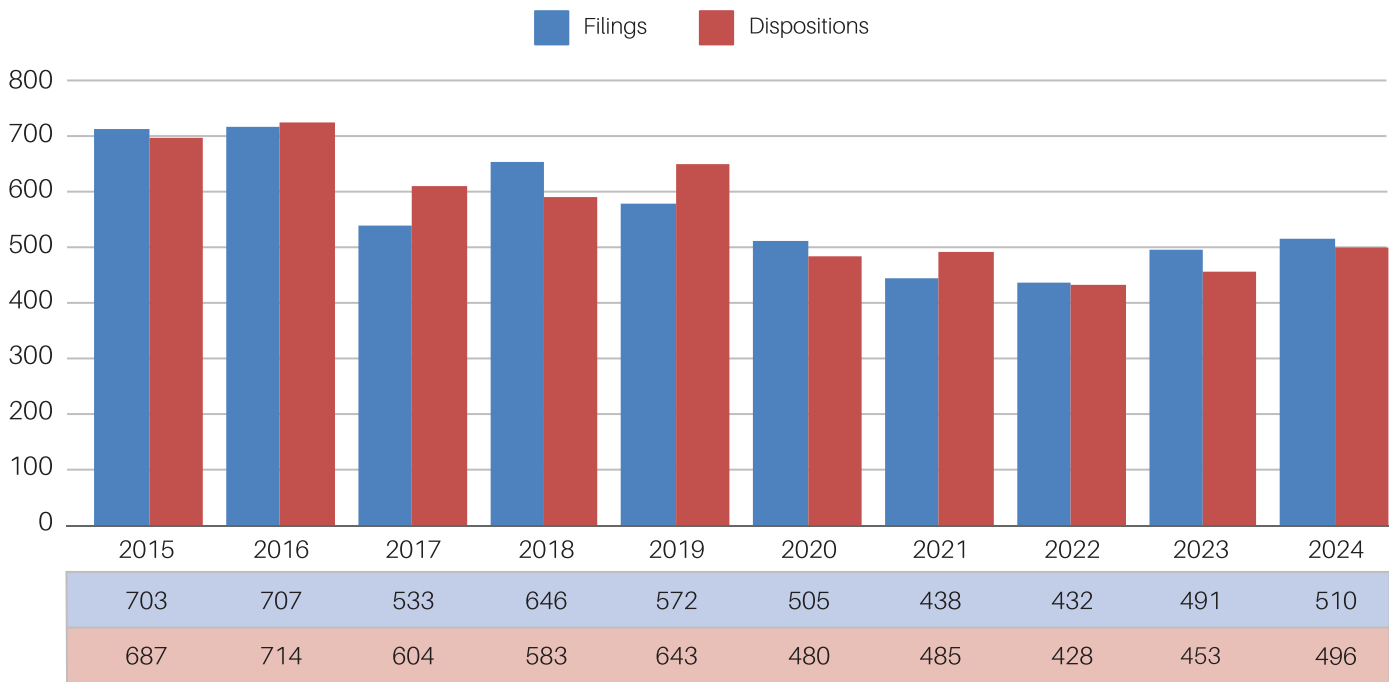


\*Includes the Board on Professional Responsibility and the Board of Bar Examiners.

# SUPREME COURT



Supreme Court Filings and Dispositions by Fiscal Year



## COURT ON THE JUDICIARY

Delaware judges are governed by the highest standards of conduct in both their professional and personal capacities. The Court on the Judiciary is responsible for the receipt, investigation, prosecution, adjudication, and resolution of complaints alleging the ethical misconduct or disability of state judicial officers in Delaware. The judicial disciplinary process safeguards the integrity of, and thereby promotes public confidence in, the Judiciary and the judicial process.

**Docketed Complaints  
FY 24**

**24**



**Complaints Dismissed  
FY 24**

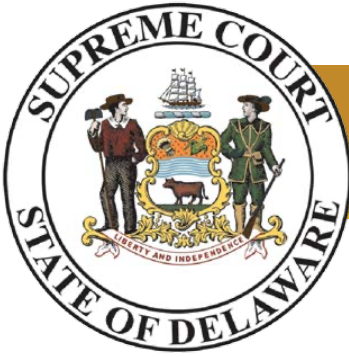
**23**



**Complaints Referred for  
Investigation FY 24**

**0**



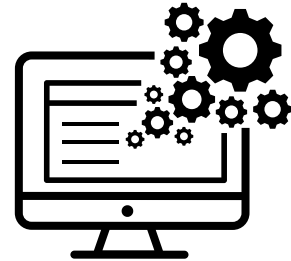


# ARMS OF THE SUPREME COURT

## Commission on Law and Technology

The commission develops and publishes guidelines and best practices regarding the use of technology and the practice of law. The commission was created by order of the Supreme Court on July 1, 2013, and became effective on Sept. 15, 2013.

The Delaware Supreme Court then re-established and re-focused the commission by order on Nov. 27, 2023. The commission is composed of members who are appointed by the Court and serve three year terms.



## Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection

The Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection is a fund created by the Delaware Supreme Court to provide monetary relief to clients who have suffered financial losses as a result of the dishonest conduct of lawyers. While acts of

attorney dishonesty are the exceptions and not the rule, the fund was established to show the good faith of all members of the Delaware Bar.



## Commission on Continuing Legal Education (CLE)

The commission regulates legal education compliance for members of the Delaware State Bar. In addition, the commission reviews and processes CLE providers' applications for program approval.

**CLE Transcripts  
Processed FY 24**

**6,440**

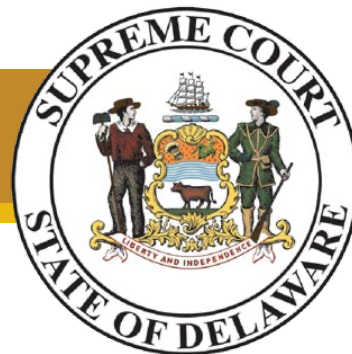
**CLE Programs  
Evaluated FY 24**

**6,670**





# ARMS OF THE SUPREME COURT



## Board of Bar Examiners

The board considers applications for admission and results of examinations for admissions to the Delaware State Bar. The Delaware Bar Examination consists of the Multistate Bar Examination, two Multistate Performance Tests and four essay questions. In addition applicants must also pass the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination.

**Bar Exam Applicants  
July 2023**

**262**

**Bar Exam Applicants  
February 2024**

**110**

**Admitted to the Bar in  
Fiscal Year 2024\***

**201**

\* Does not reflect number who passed the Bar Exam

## Office of Disciplinary Counsel

The Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) assists the Supreme Court in regulating the practice of law. In this capacity, the ODC is charged with evaluating, investigating, and, if warranted, prosecuting lawyer misconduct. All complaints regarding a Delaware lawyer's conduct should be directed to the ODC.

**Disciplinary  
Complaints Opened  
FY 24**

**218**



**Disciplinary  
Complaints Resolved  
FY 24**

**193**



**CLE Presentations  
by ODC FY 24**

**31**



**Ethics Hotline  
Inquiries FY 24**

**160**



**Unauthorized Practice of Law  
Complaints Opened FY 24**

**16**



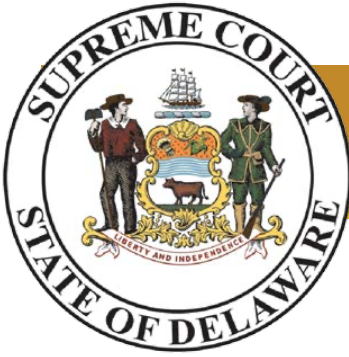
**Unauthorized Practice of Law  
Complaints Resolved FY 24**

**9**



### The Delaware Bar as of March 2024

Active Lawyers	3,959
Inactive Lawyers	766
Emeritus Lawyers	151
<b>Total Lawyers</b>	<b>4,876</b>



# SUPREME COURT

## In Memoriam

### Justice James T. Vaughn, Jr.



The Delaware Judiciary mourned the passing of retired Supreme Court Justice James T. Vaughn, Jr. on October 10, 2024.

**"When he retired less than two years ago, I said the Court would miss Justice Vaughn's hard work, steady hand and unflappable nature. That has proven to be true. Justice Vaughn has left an indelible mark on Delaware's legal landscape. The Delaware Supreme Court and Superior Court are grateful for his long service to the citizens of Delaware,"** said Chief Justice Collins J. Seitz, Jr.

Justice Vaughn, 75, first joined the bench in 1998 as the Resident Judge for Kent County Superior Court. He was later

elevated to the position of President Judge of Superior Court in 2004. Governor Jack Markell then appointed him to the Supreme Court in October 2014 and he retired from the bench in May 2023.

In his letter to the governor stating his intention to step down, he wrote, in his typically understated style, **"It has been an honor and a privilege to serve ... I will always appreciate the memories of working with my colleagues on the bench and with court staff in our efforts to maintain the rule of law in this state. I leave with a sense of satisfaction that I have done my best to discharge the duties of the judicial offices I have held."**





The **Court of Chancery** has jurisdiction to hear all matters relating to equity. The litigation in this tribunal deals largely with corporate issues, trusts, estates, other fiduciary matters, disputes involving the purchase of land and questions of title to real estate as well as commercial and contractual matters. The Court of Chancery has a national reputation in the business community and is responsible for developing the case law in Delaware on corporate matters. Appeals from the Court of Chancery may be taken to the Supreme Court.



# Court of Chancery

## Chancellor Kathaleen St. J. McCormick

### *By the Numbers*

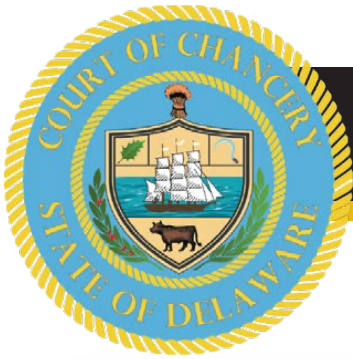


#### **COURT OF CHANCERY**

- Judges - 7
- Magistrates - 3.5\*
- Court Staff - 56

TOTAL: 66.5

*\* The .5 represents a part-time magistrate*



# COURT OF CHANCERY



## Court of Chancery

### **Seated, Front Row (left to right):**

Vice Chancellor Morgan T. Zurn • Vice Chancellor J. Travis Laster •  
Chancellor Kathaleen St. J. McCormick • Vice Chancellor Sam Glasscock III •  
Vice Chancellor Paul A. Fioravanti, Jr.

### **Standing, Second Row (left to right):**

Magistrate in Chancery Loren Mitchell • Magistrate in Chancery Patricia W. Griffin (retired 12/2022) •  
Vice Chancellor Lori W. Will • Vice Chancellor Nathan A. Cook •  
Magistrate in Chancery Selena E. Molina • Magistrate in Chancery Bonnie W. David

### **Not Pictured:**

Magistrate in Chancery Christian Douglas Wright • Magistrate in Chancery Danielle Gibbs



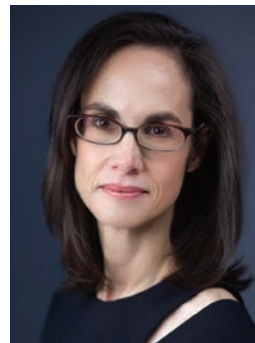
# COURT OF CHANCERY



## Court of Chancery

## 2024 Highlights

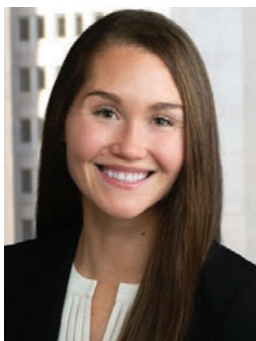
- Title of "Master in Chancery" was changed to "Magistrate in Chancery" through SB 179 signed on 7/17/23.
- Publication of redacted opinions resolving guardianship petitions, to provide guidance and promote transparency on how guardianships are handled by the court, began on 8/4/23.
- Nora McDonough Crawford received the Annual Award for Attorney Ad Litem Service to the Court on 12/5/23.
- The Court of Chancery held its second annual student Legal History Art Contest. The winners, announced 4/22/24 were Amaurie Yip, 16, of Middletown High School, who won the \$500 first-place prize for her work, "Torn Remembrance," Nevaeh Rumbley, 16, of Dover High School who won the \$300 second-place prize for her work, "The Law of Equity," and Josie Petrak, 18, of Brandywine High School who won the \$200 third-place prize for her work, "Segregation in School."
- Second tranche of Rule amendments to update, modernize and improve court rules, specifically Rules 1 - 6, 8 - 9, 11 - 15, 23, 23.1, 79, 79.1, 79.2, and 174, became effective 6/14/24.
- For the fourth year, the court welcomed high school interns participating in the Delaware Department of State's Future Leaders Internship Initiative ("FLii").
- Two new Magistrate in Chancery positions were added in 2024. Magistrate Christian Douglas Wright was named to fill one of the two positions on 11/4/24 and Magistrate Danielle Gibbs was named to the second position on 12/2/24.



Hon. Danielle Gibbs



Hon. Christian Douglas Wright



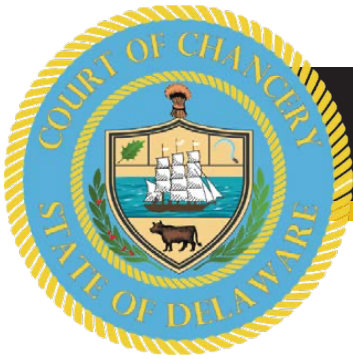
Nora McDonough  
Crawford



"Torn Remembrance"

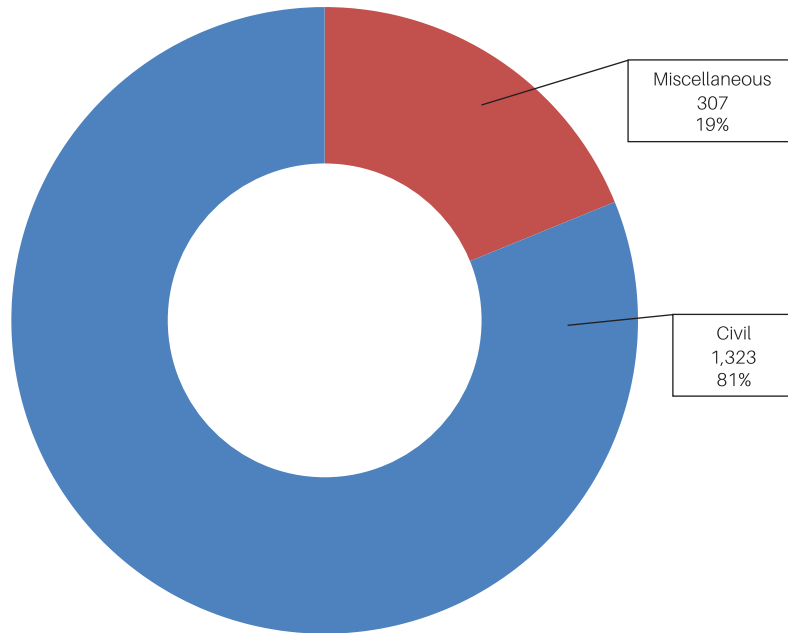


"The Law of Equity"



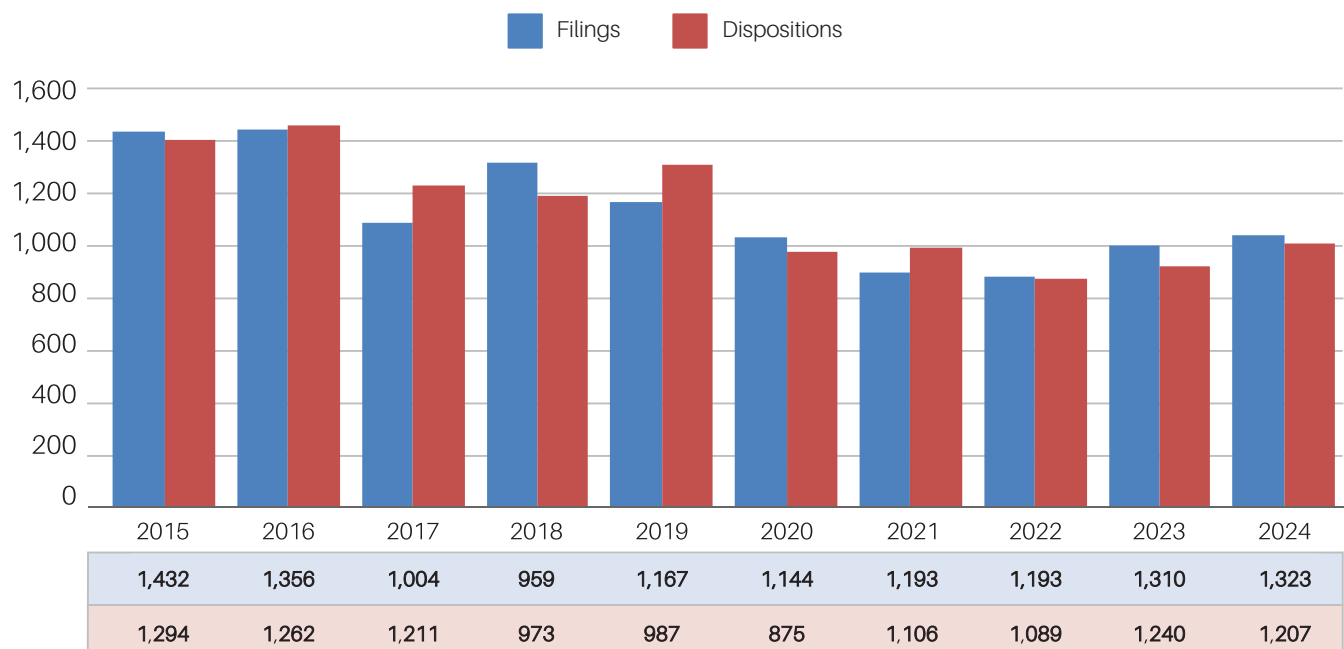
# COURT OF CHANCERY

## Court of Chancery Filings by Type Fiscal Year 2024

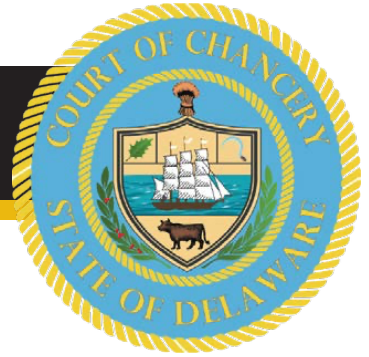


Before FY 23 reactivated cases were included in this count. Beginning FY 23 they were excluded. FY 24 saw 49 reactivated cases.

## Court of Chancery Civil Caseload Trend By Fiscal Year



# COURT OF CHANCERY



## Thank You

# Vice Chancellor Glasscock



The Honorable Sam Glasscock III retired from the Court of Chancery on January 7, 2025 after more than 25 years of service with the Court. He was first appointed as a Master in Chancery (now called Magistrate) in 1999 and was elevated to the position of Vice Chancellor in 2011.

The Vice Chancellor had a varied career before joining the court, including working as a judicial law clerk, an associate at a well-respected Delaware firm, and as a Deputy Attorney General in the Appeals Unit of the Department of Justice. Vice Chancellor Glasscock spent most of his youth in Lewes, Delaware. He received a bachelor's degree in history and master's degree in marine policy from the University of Delaware, and a law degree from Duke University.

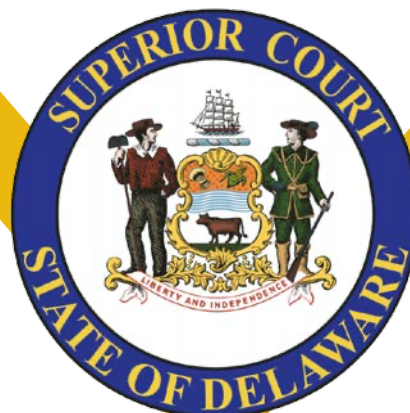
*"We are losing an exceptional corporate mind from our ranks, as the Vice Chancellor's contributions to the development of our law are unmatched. The Vice Chancellor has approached his judicial service as he approaches life, with a powerful work ethic and potent sense of humor. It has been an absolute privilege and joy to serve beside him, and we all look forward to hearing about the many adventures he will enjoy in retirement."*

*-Chancellor Kathaleen McCormick*





The **Superior Court**, the State's court of general jurisdiction, has original jurisdiction over criminal and civil cases except equity cases. The Court has exclusive jurisdiction over felonies and almost all drug offenses. In civil matters, the Court's authority to award damages is not subject to a monetary maximum. The Superior Court also serves as an intermediate appellate court by hearing appeals on the record from the Court of Common Pleas, the Family Court (in criminal cases), and a number of administrative agencies. Appeals from the Superior Court may be taken to the Supreme Court.



# Superior Court

## President Judge Jan R. Jurden

### *By the Numbers*



#### **SUPERIOR COURT**

- Judges - 21
- Commissioners - 5
- Court Staff - 302

TOTAL: 328

# SUPERIOR COURT



## Superior Court Judges

### Seated, Front Row (left to right):

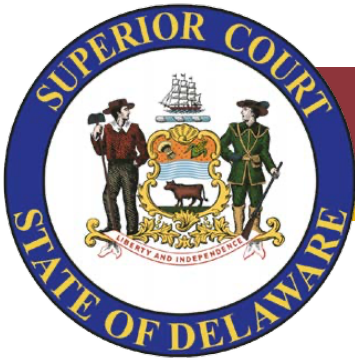
Judge Vivian L. Medinilla • Judge Eric M. Davis • Judge Calvin L. Scott, Jr. •  
President Judge Jan R. Jurden • Resident Judge Charles E. Butler • Judge Paul R. Wallace •  
Judge Ferris W. Wharton

### Standing, Second Row (left to right):

Judge Francis J. Jones, Jr. • Resident Judge Craig A. Karshitz • Judge Noel Eason Primos •  
Resident Judge Jeffrey J. Clark • Judge Sheldon K. Rennie • Judge Meghan A. Adams •  
Judge Mark H. Conner

### Standing, Third Row (left to right):

Judge Kathleen M. Miller • Judge Patricia A. Winston • Judge Reneta L. Green-Streett •  
Judge Robert H. Robinson, Jr. • Judge Danielle J. Brennan • Judge Sean P. Lugg •  
Judge Kathleen M. Vavala



# SUPERIOR COURT



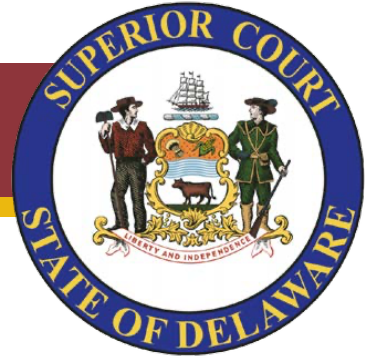
## Superior Court Commissioners

### Left to Right:

Commissioner Janine M. Salomone • Commissioner Alicia B. Howard •  
Commissioner Martin B. O'Connor • Commissioner Andrea M. Freud •  
Commissioner Lynne M. Parker



# SUPERIOR COURT



## Superior Court

# 2024 Highlights



FLii Intern Orientation

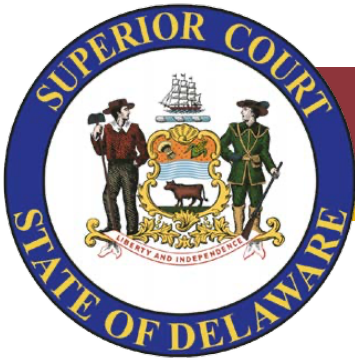


Digital Recording



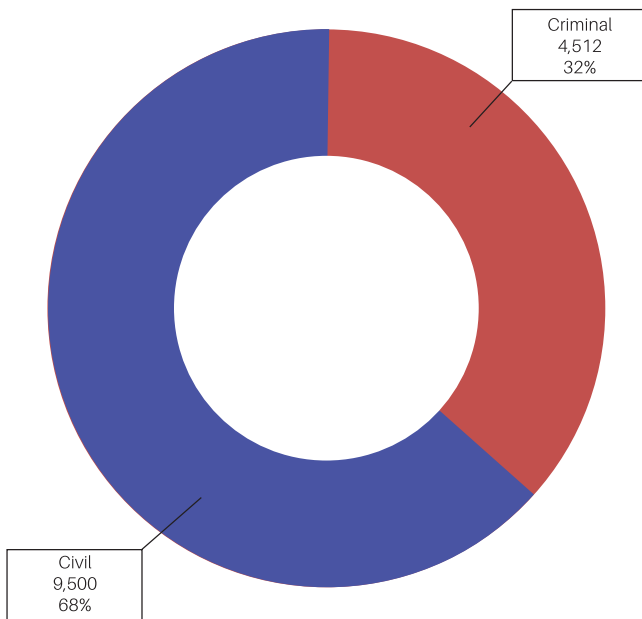
Officer Vinn

- Welcomed DELREC interns through the Delaware Department of State's Future Leaders Internship Initiative ("FLii").
- Celebrated our 3<sup>rd</sup> year hosting summer law clerks from the Judicial Clerkship Program sponsored by the Delaware State Bar's Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee.
- Participated with Widener Law School and Wilmington University Law School internship programs to work with our judges in all 3 counties.
- Enacted cross-designation of Section 111 of the Delaware General Corporation Law that now includes Superior Court Complex Commercial Litigation (CCLD) Judges. This change increased the caseload for CCLD judges. Superior Court has now assigned 5 judges to CCLD.
- Expanded the use of digital recording for making the court's record by enacting Administrative Order 2024-3.
- Welcomed Officer Vinn, the courthouse facility dog, whose presence helps ease stress for adults and children during legal proceedings.
- Started work on moving the tradename registration process from the Judicial Branch to the Executive Branch as required by SB 291.

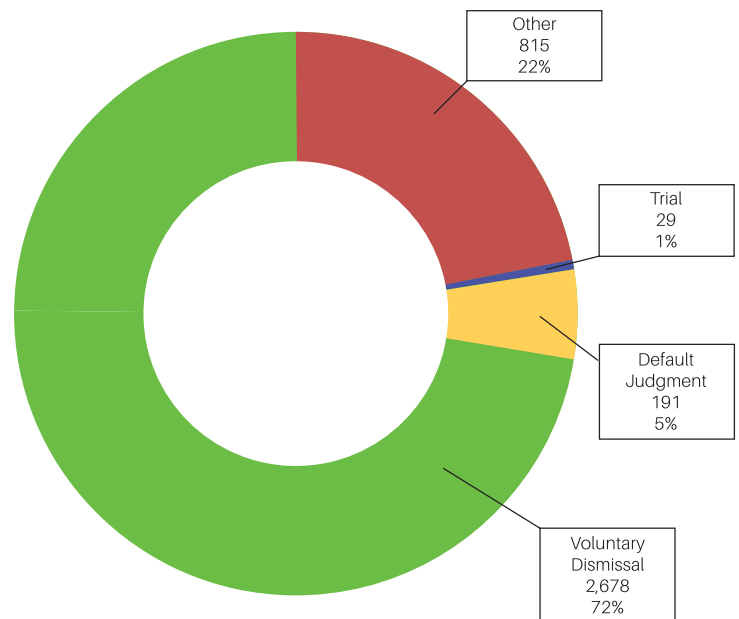


# SUPERIOR COURT

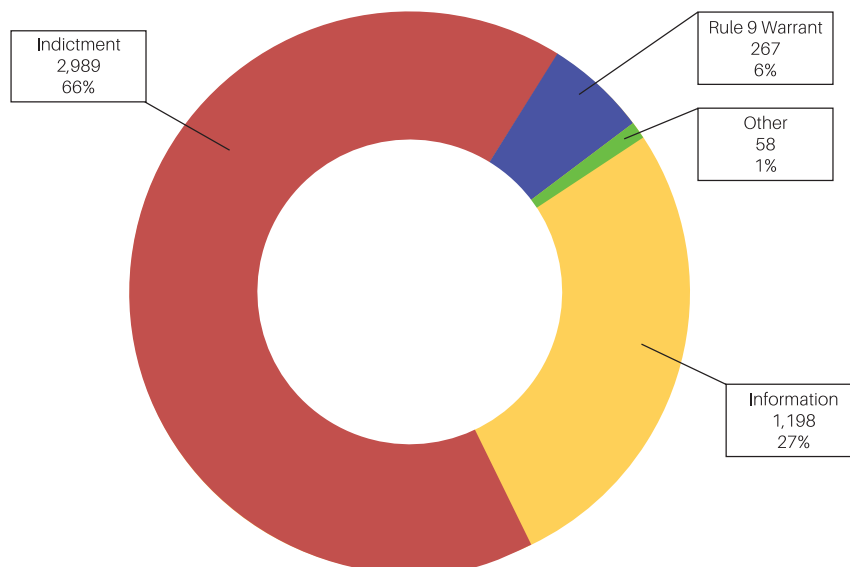
**Number of Superior Court Filings  
by Type Fiscal Year 2024**



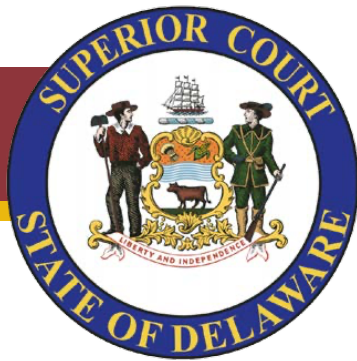
**Number of Superior Court Civil Complaint  
Dispositions by Method Fiscal Year 2024**



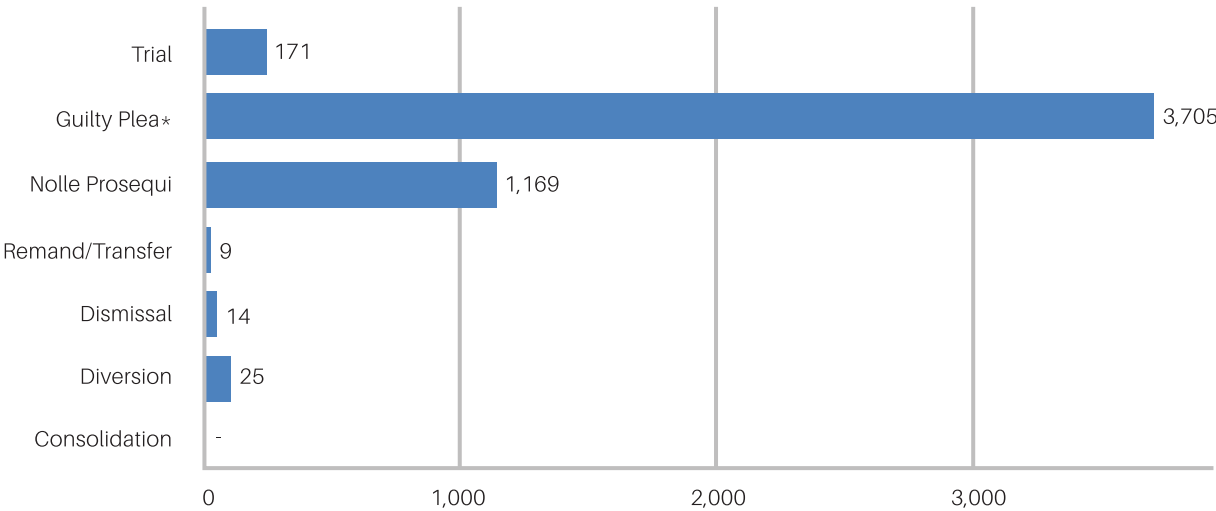
**Number of Superior Court Criminal Filings by Type Fiscal Year 2024**



# SUPERIOR COURT

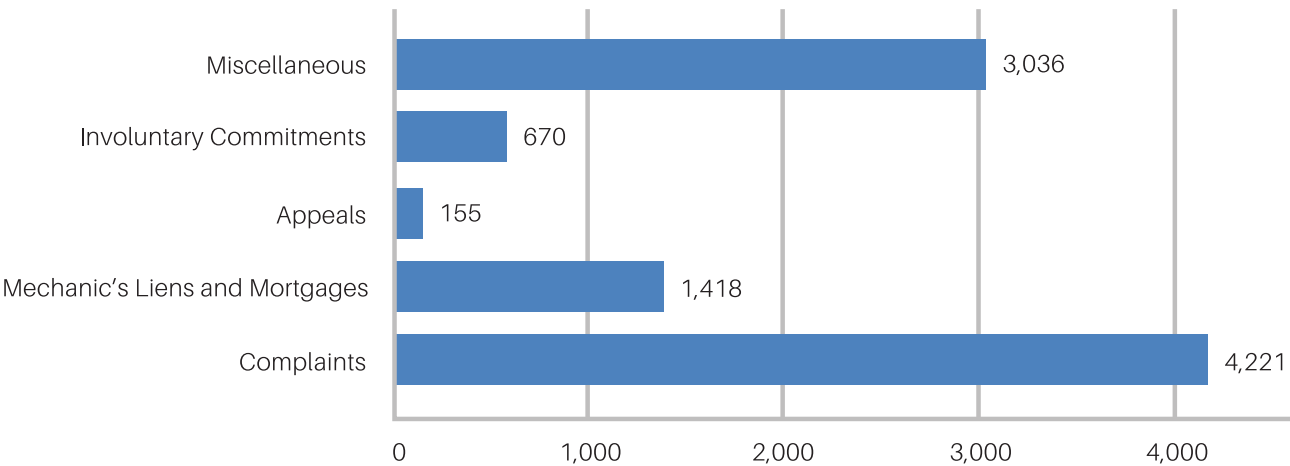


Dispositions by Method Fiscal Year 2024

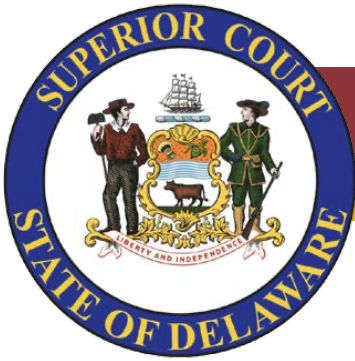


\*Includes Probation Before Judgment and Guilty but Mentally Ill, First Offender Program and Civil Possession of Marijuana.

Number of Superior Court Civil Filings by Type Fiscal Year 2024

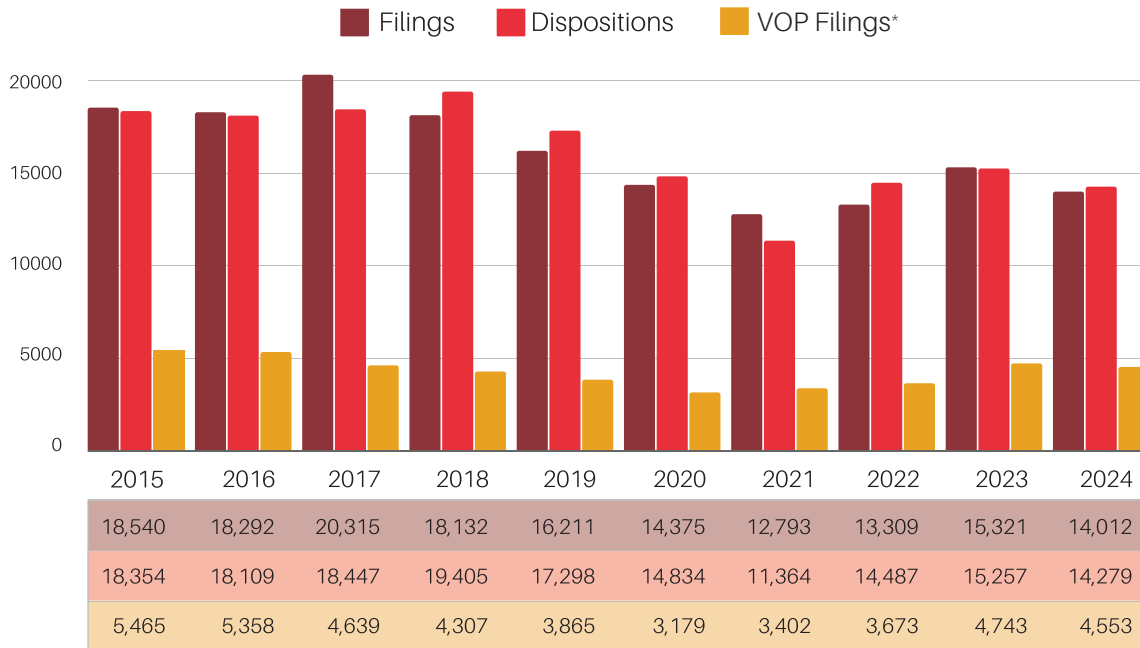






# SUPERIOR COURT

## Superior Court Civil and Criminal Filings and Dispositions by Fiscal Year



\* Violation of Probation

## JURY SERVICES

The Superior Court supplies jurors for civil and criminal Superior Court trials; for criminal Court of Common Pleas trials; and for landlord tenant trials in the Justice of the Peace Courts. The Superior Court also provides jurors for the Grand Jury process.

Summioned New Castle County	153,032	Jurors Brought In, New Castle County	24,187	New Castle County Jury Trials	152
Summioned Kent County	16,587	Jurors Brought In, Kent County	2,073	Kent County Jury Trials	16
Summioned Sussex County	24,096	Jurors Brought In, Sussex County	2,649	Sussex County Jury Trials	14
<b>Total Summioned FY 24</b>	<b>193,175</b>	<b>Total Jurors FY 24</b>	<b>28,909</b>	<b>Total Jury Trials FY 24</b>	<b>182</b>

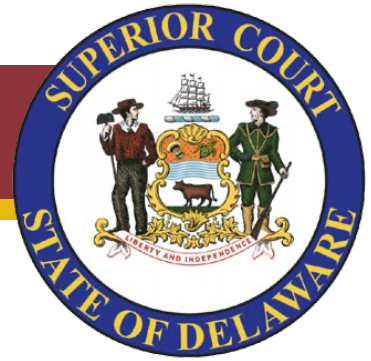
### Grand Jury

Served in New Castle County FY 24  
**289**

Served in Kent County FY 24  
**100**

Served in Sussex County FY 24  
**135**

# SUPERIOR COURT



## Thank You

## Judge Jurden

Superior Court President Judge Jan R. Jurden retired from the bench effective Feb. 28, 2025. She first joined the court as a Superior Court Judge in May 2001 and was appointed President Judge in January 2015, becoming the first woman to hold that position. In her letter to Governor Carney signaling her intention to step down, President Judge Jurden wrote that it has been an honor and privilege to serve the people of Delaware.

*"I could not have asked for better colleagues, or more dedicated, hardworking court staff. As much as I love the Court and my Superior Court family, I write to let you know I have decided it is time."*

*-President Judge Jan R. Jurden*



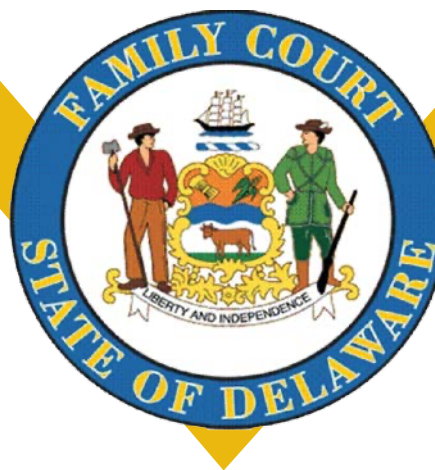
*"A skilled leader in normal times, President Judge Jurden led the Superior Court through the COVID 19 pandemic with all the competence, care, and grace one would expect from a person of such great character and wisdom. The Delaware courts will miss her greatly, and we wish her well in her next chapter of life."*

*Delaware Supreme Court Chief Justice*

*-Collins J. Seitz, Jr.*



The **Family Court** has extensive jurisdiction over virtually all family and juvenile matters. All civil appeals, including those relating to juvenile delinquency, go directly to the Supreme Court while adult criminal cases are appealed to the Superior Court. The Constitution of Delaware, Article IV, Section 1, establishes the Family Court.



# Family Court

## Chief Judge Michael K. Newell

### ***By the Numbers***



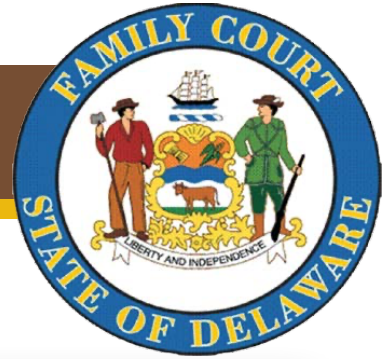
#### **FAMILY COURT**

- Judges - 17
- Commissioners - 16
- Court Staff - 307

TOTAL: 340



# FAMILY COURT



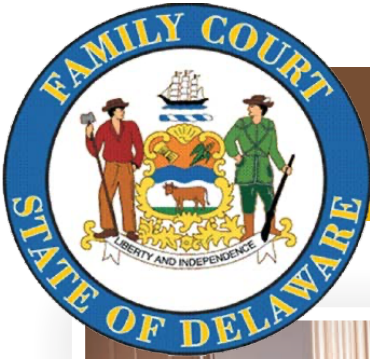
## Family Court Judges

### **Seated, Front Row (seated left to right):**

Judge Arlene Minus Coppadge • Judge Mardi F. Pyott • Judge Louann Vari •  
Judge James G. McGiffin, Jr. • Judge Mary S. Much • Judge Janell S. Ostroski •  
Judge Felice G. Kerr

### **Standing, Back Row (left to right):**

Judge Paula T. Ryan • Judge Jennifer B. Ranji • Judge Peter B. Jones • Judge Theresa M. Hayes •  
Chief Judge Michael K. Newell • Judge Joelle P. Hitch • Judge Michael W. Arrington •  
Judge Natalie J. Haskins • Judge Mark D. Buckworth • Judge Eliza M. Hirst



# FAMILY COURT



## Family Court Commissioners

### **Seated, Front Row (left to right):**

Commissioner Theresa A. Sedivec • Commissioner Sonja Truitt Wilson •  
Commissioner Para K. Wolcott • Commissioner Kim DeBonte •  
Commissioner Loretta Young • Commissioner Emily A. Farley

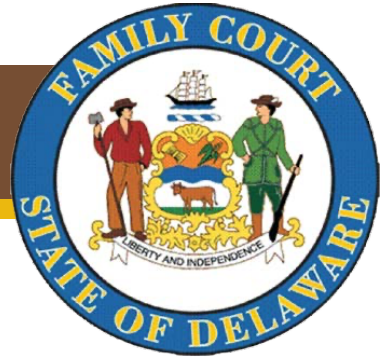
### **Standing, Back Row (left to right):**

Commissioner Jennifer L. Mayo • Commissioner James J. Maxwell •  
Commissioner Danielle S. Blount • Commissioner Andrew K. Southmayd •  
Chief Judge Michael K. Newell • Commissioner Francis E. Mieczkowski, III •  
Commissioner M. DeSales Haley • Commissioner Jessica B. Markowski-Kelly •  
Commissioner Gretchen C. Gilchrist

### **Not Pictured:**

Commissioner Craig R. Fitzgerald • Commissioner Candace E. Holmes

# FAMILY COURT

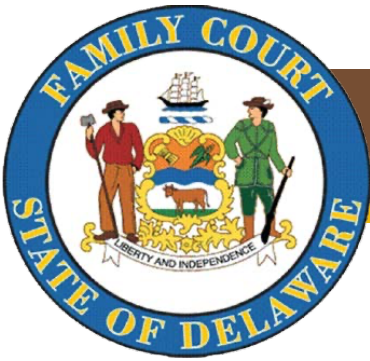


## Family Court

# 2024 Highlights

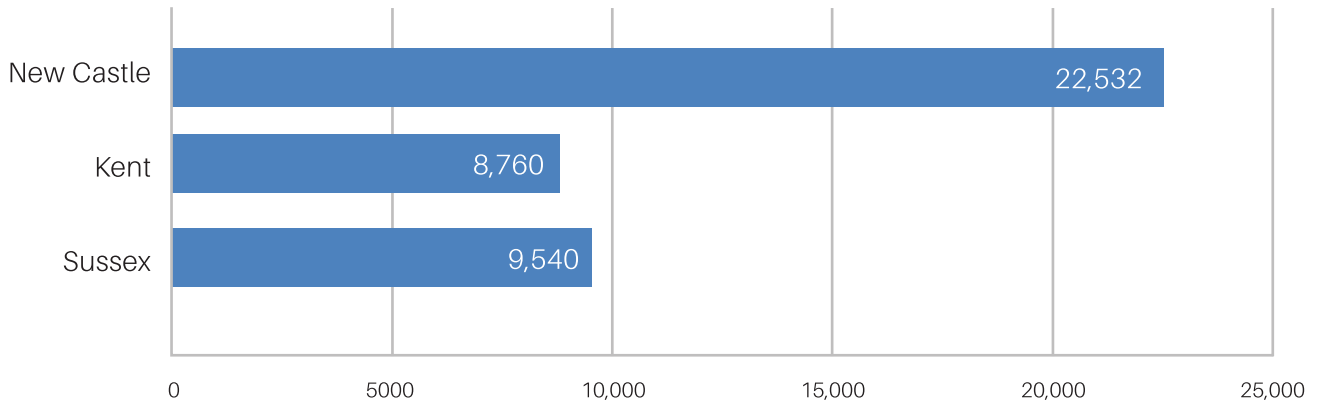
- Family Court welcomed new Judge, Eliza Hirst, who took the bench after longtime Judge, Robert Coonin, retired.
- Family Court also welcomed two new Commissioners, Jessica Markowski-Kelly in New Castle County and Candace Holmes in Kent County.
- Work continued on modernizing internal security policies and procedures to improve safety.
- Updates were made to the process of issuing writs as well as e-delivery of petitions to respondents who appear remotely in protection from abuse (PFA) cases.
- The court expanded the use of Special Process Servers, to provide a more speedy resolution to a case for petitioners who choose this option.
- New Castle County created a child waiting area in the Family Court Resource Center. This space provides child-friendly amenities while parents complete forms or conduct other business in the Resource Center or intake areas. As a part of this effort, the Wilmington Library donated books for the "Kids Corner".
- The court focused on improving supervisory training, with several employees graduating or actively participating in the Judicial Branch Supervisor Series Certificate Program.
- The court continued to work on recruitment. This produced an unprecedented number of new staff and supervisors joining the court, which has allowed the court to improve processing times for civil cases.
- The court partnered with the Department of Justice and Office of Defense Services to hold "blitz" calendars to successfully address a backlog of arraignments and support arrears cases
- The court implemented a compliance calendar for PFA cases and continues to work on improving the completion rate for parties who have been ordered to Domestic Violence Treatment.
- The court continues to work with construction teams on completion of, and transition to, the new Family Court courthouses for Kent and Sussex Counties.



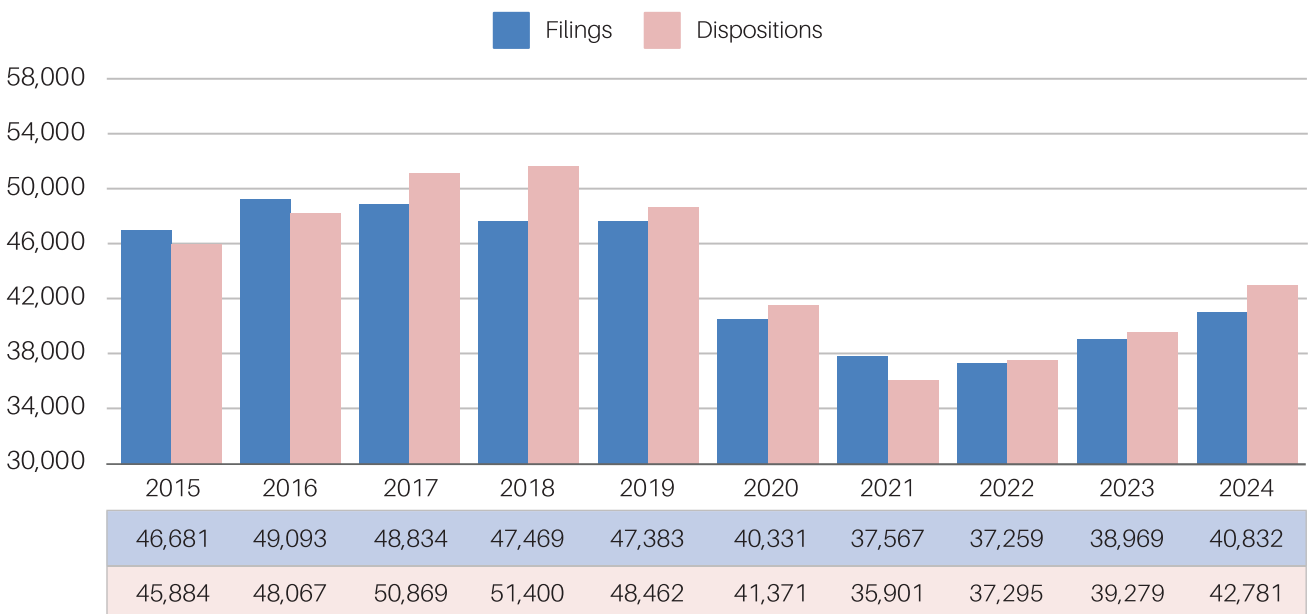


# FAMILY COURT

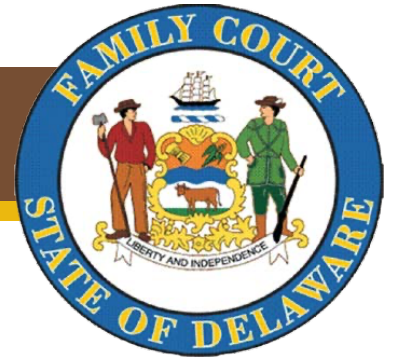
Family Court Filings by County Fiscal Year 2024



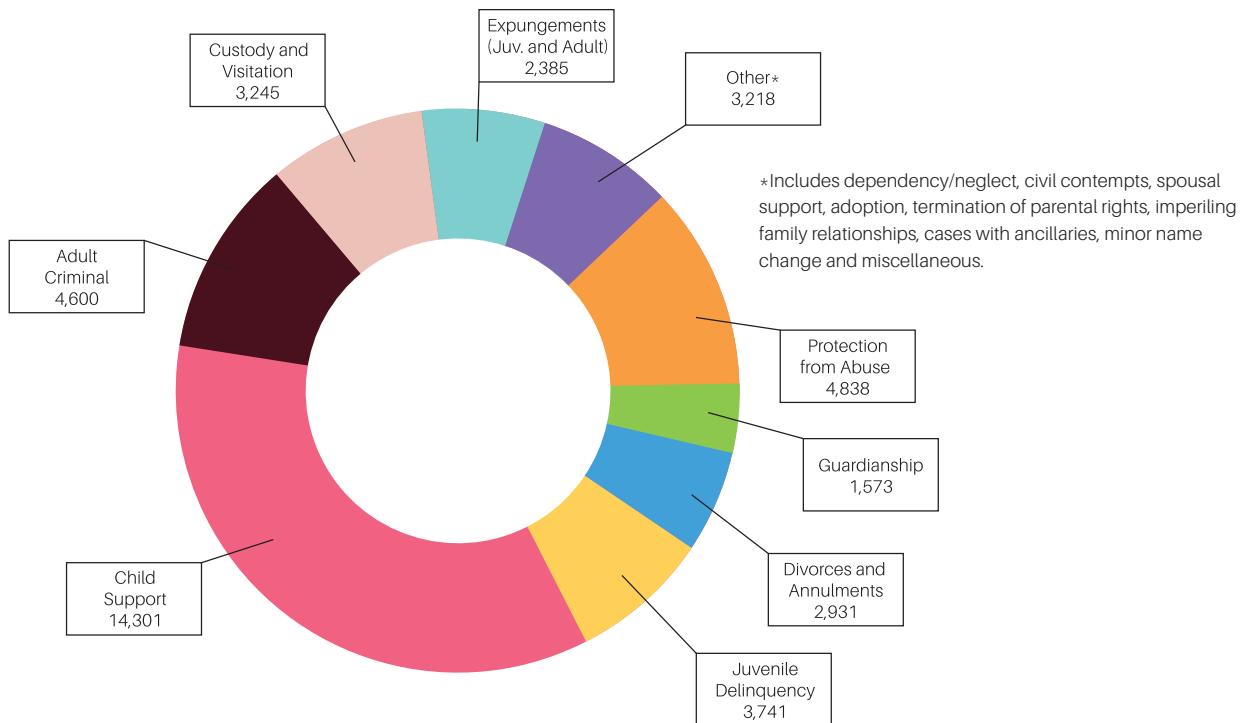
Family Court Civil and Criminal Filings and Dispositions by Fiscal Year



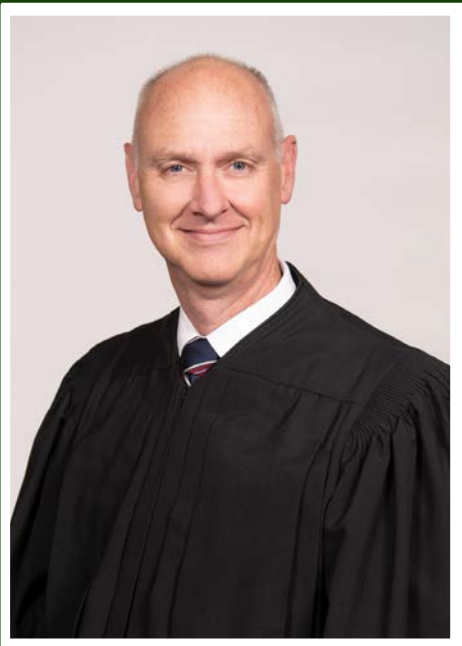
# FAMILY COURT



## Number of Family Court Filings by Type Fiscal Year 2024



Family Court Chief Judge Michael Newell (left) and Family Court Judge James McGiffin (right) participated in the Delaware Judiciary's annual reenactment of the courtroom scene from *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street* for elementary school students at courthouses across the state. This year marked the 20<sup>th</sup> year for the performance that has entertained more than 30,000 students in grades 3, 4 and 5.



The **Court of Common Pleas** has jurisdiction in civil cases where the amount in controversy, exclusive of interest, does not exceed \$75,000. In criminal cases, the Court of Common Pleas handles all misdemeanors occurring in the State except certain drug-related offenses and traffic offenses. The Court is also responsible for all preliminary hearings in felony cases.



# Court of Common Pleas

---

## Chief Judge Carl C. Danberg

### *By the Numbers*



#### **COURT OF COMMON PLEAS**

- Judges - 9
- Commissioners - 3
- Court Staff - 137

TOTAL: 149



# COURT OF COMMON PLEAS



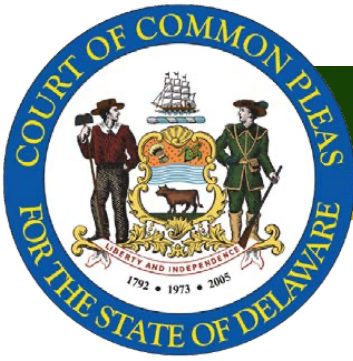
## Court of Common Pleas Judges

### Front Row (left to right):

Judge Monica A. Horton • Judge Kathleen K. Amalfitano • Judge Katharine L. Mayer

### Back Row (left to right):

Judge Rae M. Mims • Judge Robert H. Surles • Judge Anne E. Hartnett •  
Chief Judge Carl C. Danberg • Judge Kenneth S. Clark, Jr. (retired May 2024) •  
Judge Bradley V. Manning



# COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

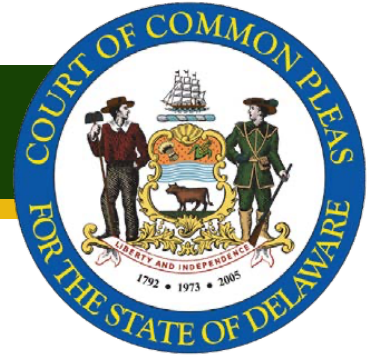


## Court of Common Pleas Commissioners

### Left to Right:

Commissioner Gregory R. Babowal • Commissioner Donald R. Bucklin •  
Commissioner Emily Ferrell

# COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

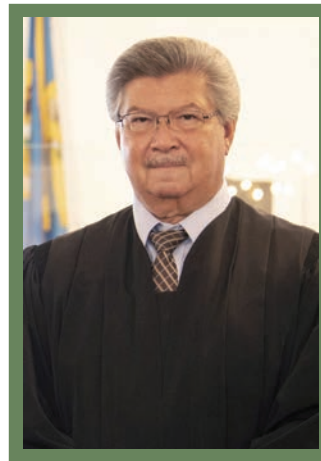


## Court Of Common Pleas

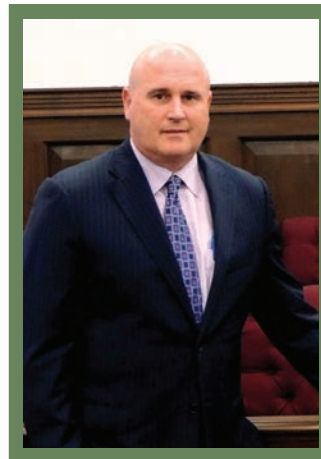
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# 2024 Highlights

- The Court said farewell to Judge Kenneth S. Clark, Jr. who retired after completing two terms on the bench and 24 years of dedicated service to the Court of Common Pleas and the people of Delaware. He joined the court in 2000 and his final day was May 31, 2024. The Court wishes him well on his retirement.
- The Court welcomed Judge Thomas Pedersen who was sworn in to office in a private ceremony on June 30, 2024, and is based in Sussex County. He replaces Judge Clark. Prior to joining the Court, Judge Pedersen was a solo practitioner in Georgetown, where he focused on criminal defense. He spent 23 years in private practice, as well as working as a conflict attorney, representing criminal cases with the Office of the Public Defender. Prior to that Judge Pedersen worked as a prosecutor in the Criminal Division of the Delaware Department of Justice. He earned his undergraduate degree from West Chester University and his law degree from Widener University School of Law.

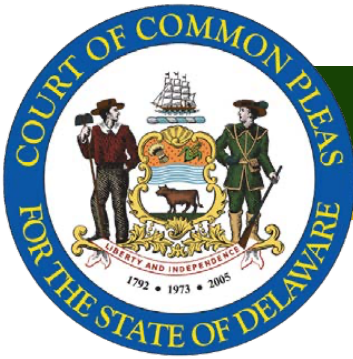


Judge Kenneth S. Clark, Jr.



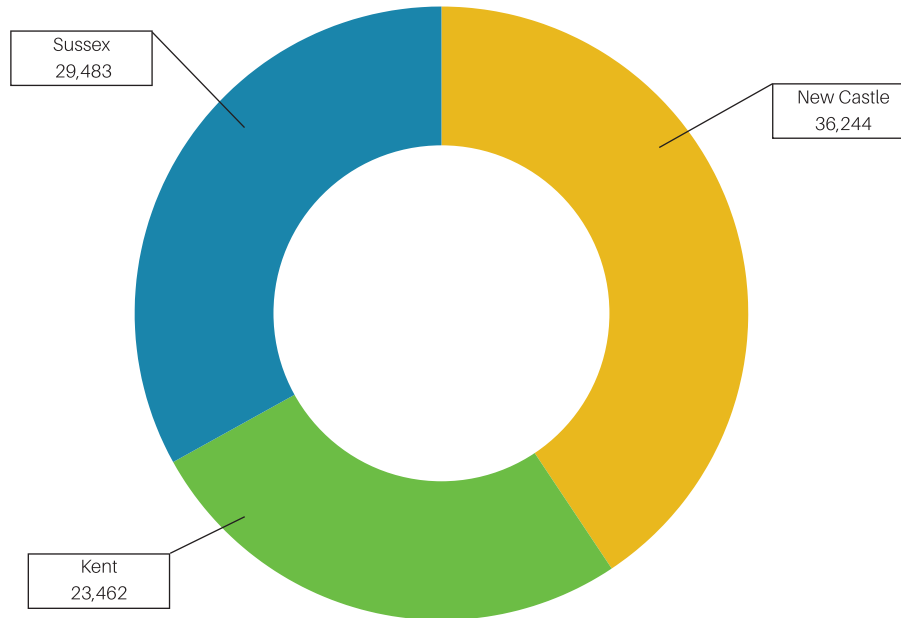
Judge Thomas Pedersen



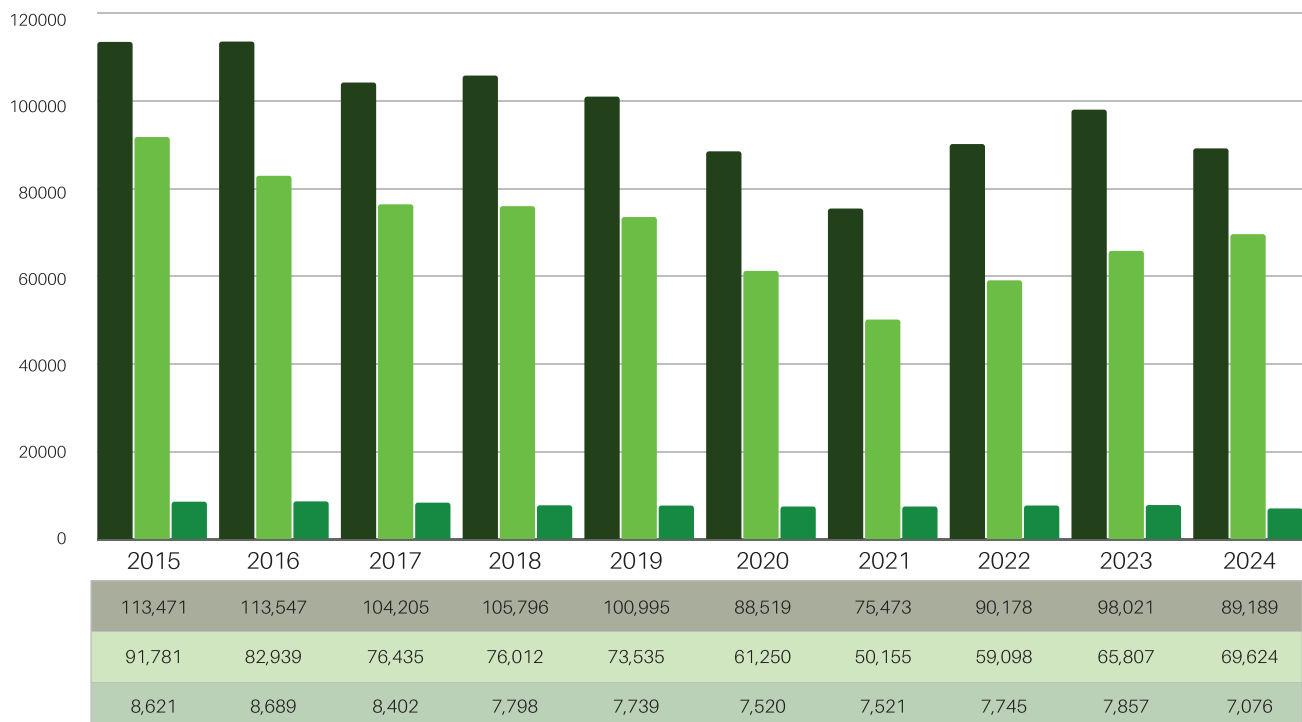


# COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

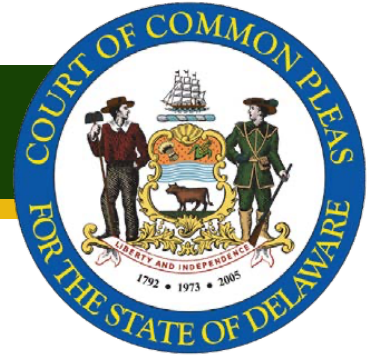
## Court of Common Pleas Civil and Criminal Filings by County Fiscal Year 2024



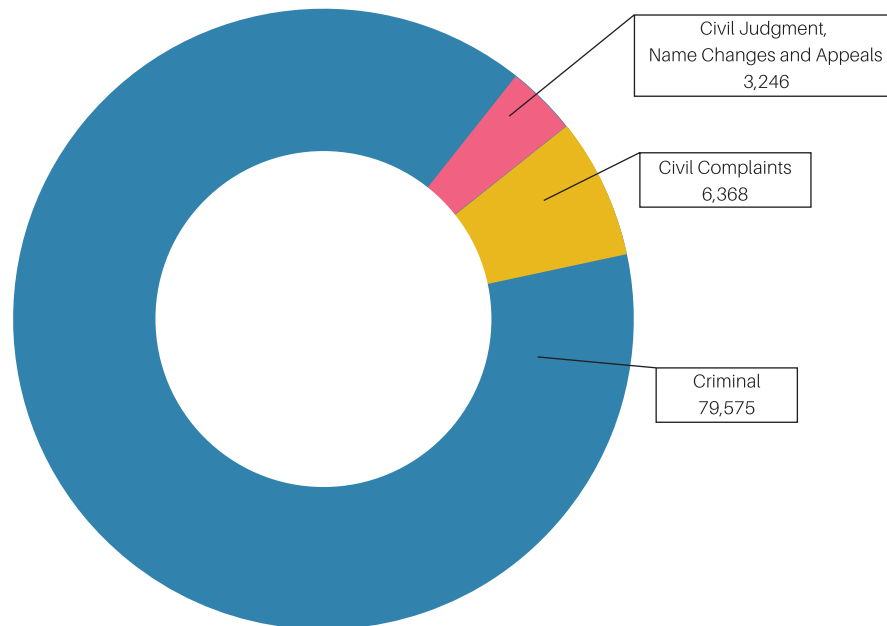
## Court of Common Pleas Criminal Caseload Trend by Fiscal Year



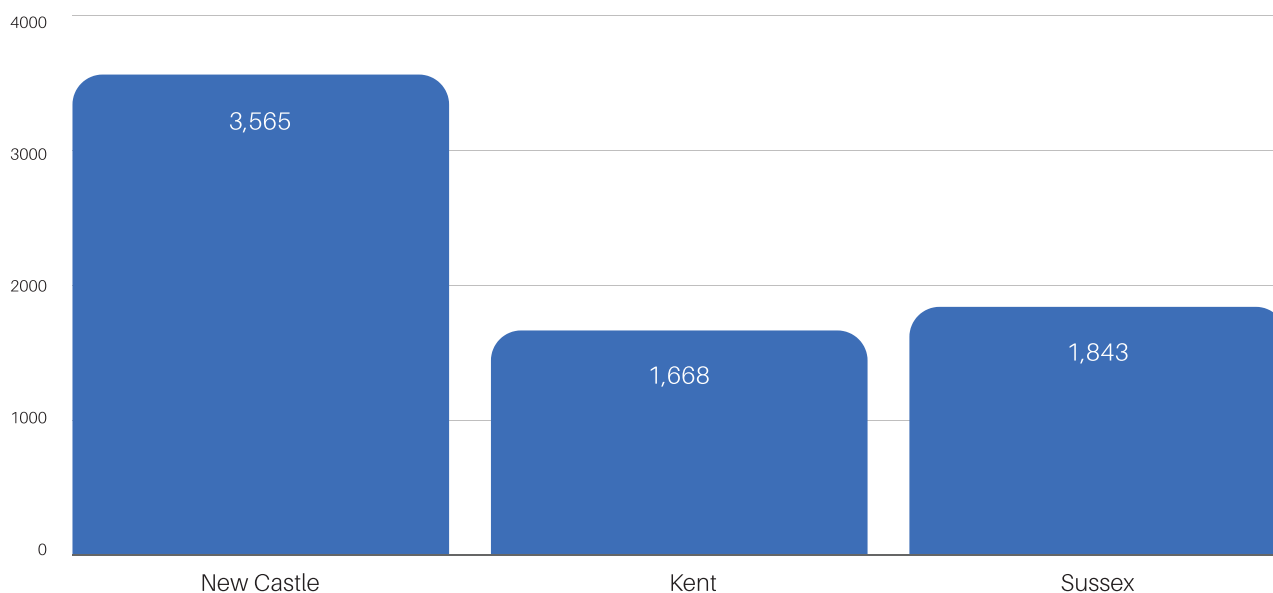
# COURT OF COMMON PLEAS



**Court of Common Pleas Number of Filings  
by Type Fiscal Year 2024**



**Court of Common Pleas Preliminary Hearings  
by County Fiscal Year 2024**





The **Justice of the Peace Court** has jurisdiction over civil cases involving debt, trespass and replevin in which the amount in controversy does not exceed \$25,000. The Justice of the Peace Court has jurisdiction over all landlord/tenant summary possession proceedings. Justice of the Peace Court is authorized to hear certain misdemeanors and most motor vehicle cases (excluding felonies) and may act as Committing magistrates for all crimes.



# Justice of the Peace Court

## Chief Magistrate Alan G. Davis

### *By the Numbers*



#### **JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT**

- Judicial Officers - 61
- Court Staff - 227

TOTAL: 288



# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT



## Kent County Judges

### **Seated, Front Row (left to right):**

Nicole Alston-Jackson • Jamie Hicks • Deputy Chief Magistrate Kevin Wilson •  
Chief Magistrate Alan G. Davis • James Murray • Judy Smith

### **Standing, Back Row (left to right):**

D. Kenneth Cox • W.G. Edmanson, II • Michael Green

### **Not Pictured:**

Dwight Dillard • Alexander Montano • Michael Sherlock • Dana Tracy



# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT



## Sussex County Judges

### Seated, Front Row (left to right):

Leah Chandler • Maria Castro • Candace Whitelock • Deputy Chief Magistrate Deborah Keenan •  
Chief Magistrate Alan G. Davis • John Hudson • Mirta Collazo • Amber Welch • Terri Davis

### Standing, Back Row (left to right):

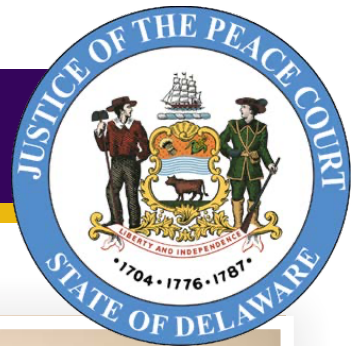
Matthew Tingle • Richard D. Comly, Jr. \* • William Patrick Wood • Bethany Crowley •  
Christopher Bradley • Catherine Hester • Kristine Kellenbenz • John Adams • Scott Willey •  
Brett Graves

### Not Pictured:

Stephani Adams • Jennifer Sammons

\* Retired, sitting by designation

# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT



## New Castle County Judges

### Seated, Front Row (left to right):

Michelle Michini-Adam • Shelley Losito • Nina Bawa • Earl MacFarlane • David Skelley •  
Chief Magistrate Alan G. Davis • Deputy Chief Magistrate Sean McCormick • Marie Page •  
Shameka Booker • Kerry Kowal • Cheryl McCabe-Stroman

### Standing, Back Row (left to right):

Rodney Vodery • Bobby Hoof • James Hanby, Sr. • Alex Peterson, III • Maria Perez-Chambers •  
John Potts • Gerald Ross, III • Shanaya Eyong • Lisa Emerson • Walter Newton • Nicholas Brock

### Not Pictured:

Peter Burcat • Bracy Dixon, Jr. • Beatrice Freel • Amanda Moyer • Mary Ellen Naugle •  
Christopher Portante • Katharine Ross • Susan Goldsman



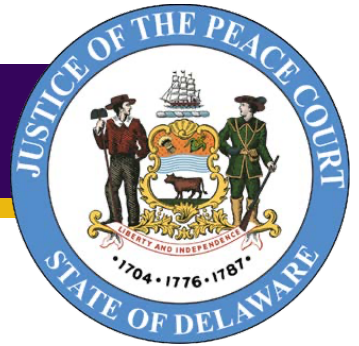


# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

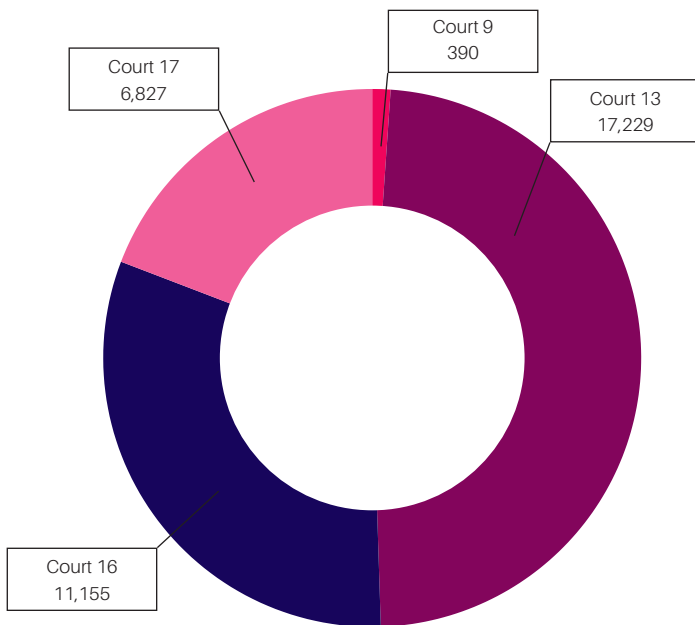
## Justice Of The Peace Court 2024 Highlights

- The JP Court has partnered with several schools and organizations to offer internship opportunities for students in high school and college. Internship partners include New Castle County Summer Youth Employment; LYTE/FLii; University of Delaware College of Political Science and University of Delaware LP3 – Law Prep Program through the College of Arts and Sciences; Al Du Pont High School; Caesar Rodney High School and Sussex Technical High School's Workforce Preparation Program. All the students who were provided opportunities qualified for financial assistance or were from under-represented communities.
- An employee survey was conducted in Spring 2024 to gather information to guide the court's employee engagement program as part of our goal to improve retention. The results indicated that employees were interested in improving the overall court safety program. As a result of the survey, training was offered to all employees on Narcan use, CPR/AED, violent intruder and CRASE (Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events) training with assistance from partners such as Hero Help, DSP, NCC and KC EMS. Last fall, our Chief of Uniformed Services and our training team conducted individual court location drills, walked staff through what to expect from security and local police should a crisis arise and provided updated additional procedures for staff to reference. Additional training will be ongoing.
- The Mediation Unit was created to implement the Eviction Diversion program established by SS1 for SB1 to help landlords and tenants communicate with each other to come to agreeable solutions to prevent evictions. The JP Court continues to utilize its Online Dispute Resolution platform as a tool to assist the parties in communicating with one another and, once a mediator is assigned to a case, as a way for mediation to occur without parties having to take time to attend an in-person meeting.
- The Voluntary Assessment and Information Center was expanded to accept calls for the JP Court Civil locations and Tax Intercepts. The reduction in calls to the civil locations assists the staff at those locations so they can work on the increased volume of filings, and it allows time to provide a higher level of customer service to court users.
- A pilot to reduce the JP Court 24-hour footprint in the state is underway. In April, the operating hours at Court 3 in Sussex County were reduced to 6:00 a.m. to midnight every day. The Court has maintained open communication with impacted agencies to determine the impact of the reduced hours on them and court users.

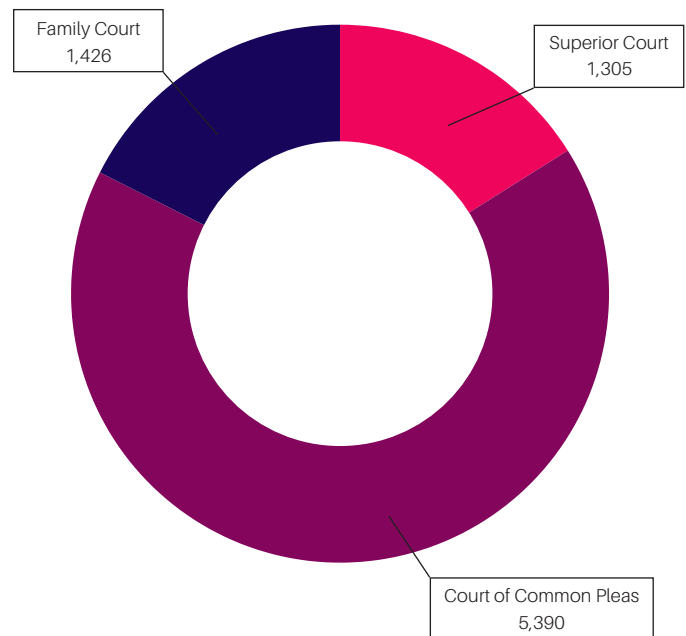
# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT



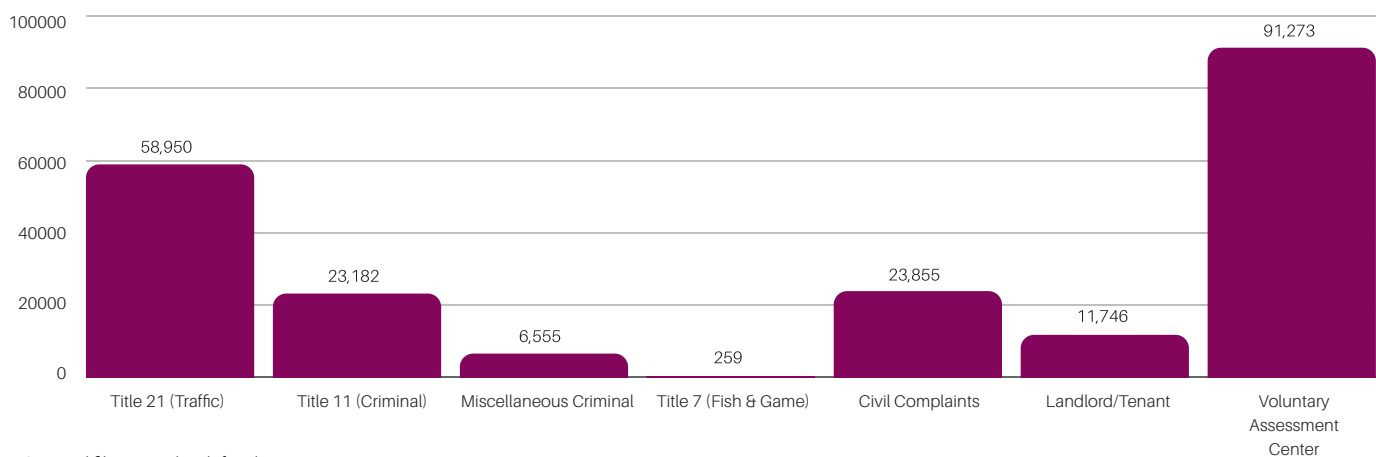
**Total Justice of the Peace Civil Cases Filed by Court Fiscal Year 2024**



**Arrest Warrants Cleared by Justice of the Peace Court for Other Courts Fiscal Year 2024**



**Number of Justice of the Peace Court Filings by Type\* Fiscal Year 2024**

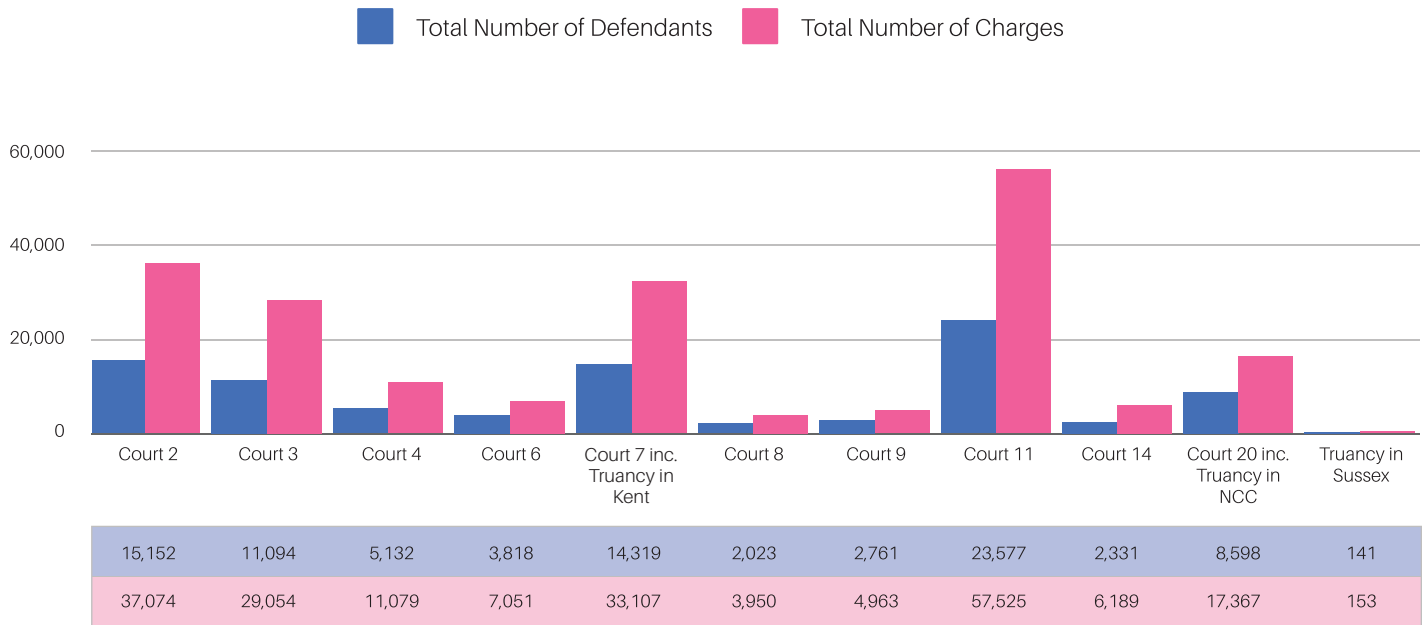


\* Criminal filings are by defendant



# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

## Justice of the Peace Court Criminal and Traffic Charges



JP Court 10 has been closed (merging with Court 20) prior to this Fiscal Year. As a result it has been removed from any charts.



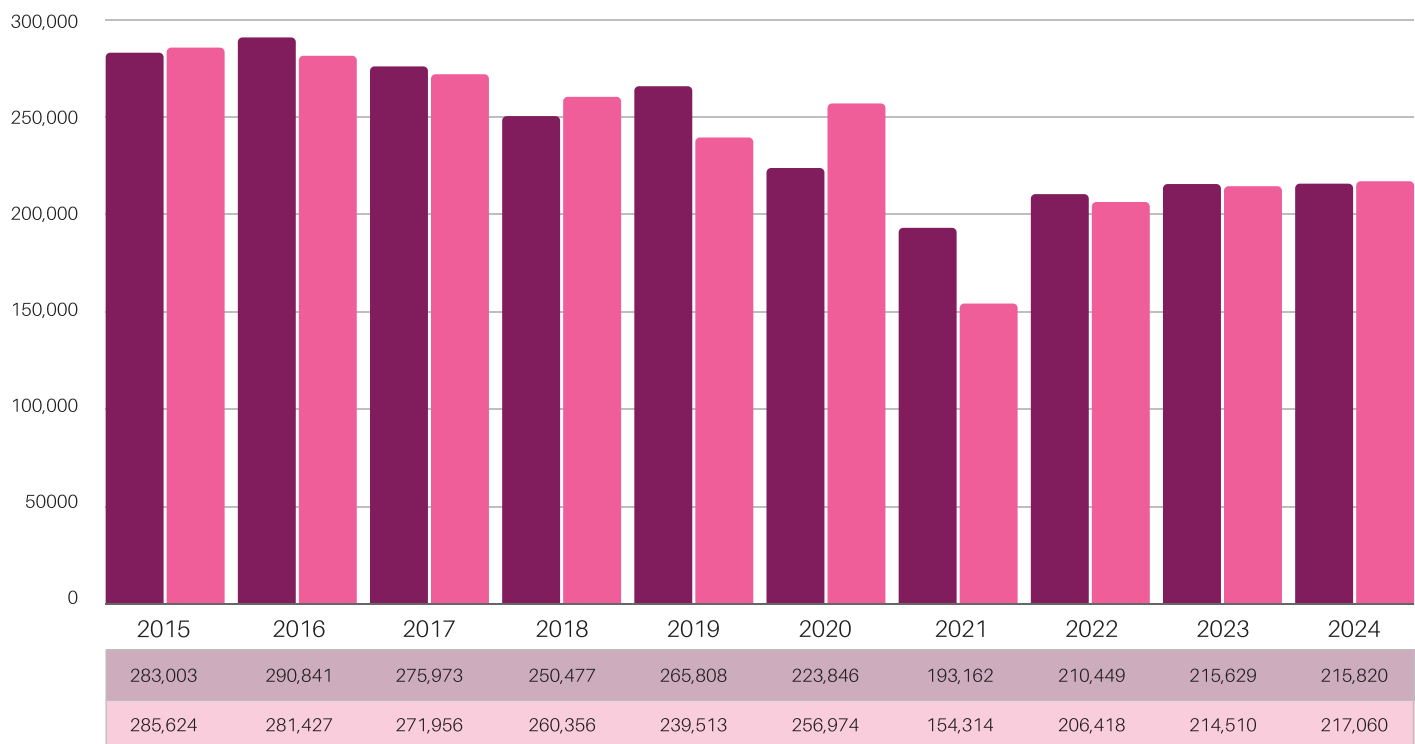
# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT



## Justice of the Peace Court Civil and Criminal/Traffic Filings and Dispositions by Fiscal Year\*

### Number of Defendants

Filings Dispositions



\*Criminal filings and disposition information is by defendant.

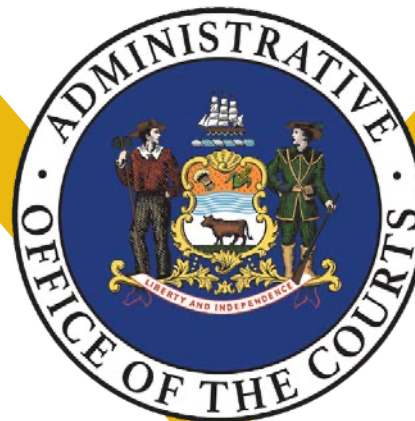


# THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS





The **Administrative Office of the Courts** (AOC) is the administrative arm of the State of Delaware Supreme Court. Established in 1971, the AOC provides a broad range of support services to the Delaware Courts in operations, information technology, legal, government relations, financial, administration and programs consistent with the statewide policies and goals established by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.



# Administrative Office of the Courts

## State Court Administrator Gayle P. Lafferty

### *By the Numbers*



#### **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS**

- Full Time Staff - 36
- Judicial Information Center - 39
- Law Library - 3
- Court Collections - 9

TOTAL: 87



#### **NON-JUDICIAL AGENCIES**

- Full Time Staff - 52

TOTAL: 52





# ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

## Community Court

The Wilmington Community Court initiative is an innovative effort by the Delaware Judiciary to break the cycle of crime before it starts by focusing on treatment and solving problems while ensuring public safety. Defendants are held accountable for their actions, but rather than using only incarceration or fines, community court looks to address the underlying issues that drive low-level, non-violent criminal behavior like drug addiction, mental health issues or unemployment and connects defendants with needed services.

The mission of Community Court is to reduce crime and recidivism by addressing the quality-of-life issues facing its communities utilizing a restorative justice approach, by forging meaningful partnerships, and improving public trust and confidence in the justice system.



### Total Participation 2019-2024

- 616 people enrolled in the Community Court program



- 511 people graduated or completed the program



### Fiscal Year 2024 Participation

- 49 people enrolled in the Community Court program



- 104 people graduated or completed the program



# ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS



## Law Libraries

The Law Libraries have been serving the Delaware Judiciary Since 1911.

The primary purpose of the law library is to provide comprehensive and responsive legal research and information assistance to the Delaware Judiciary by providing the optimum balance of current technology, legal tools, and information training. The law libraries also lend assistance to surrounding state agencies and members of the legal community. Additionally, the libraries provide support to the general public, legal scholars, and those representing themselves in the Delaware Court system.



## Limited Legal Assistance Program

Volunteer attorneys meet with eligible self-represented litigants for a one-time, fifteen-minute meeting. The attorney will not meet with the self-represented litigant outside of the program, nor will the attorney represent the litigant in court.

There is no income eligibility for this service. Instead, to be eligible, people seeking assistance must not have received previous legal assistance regarding the same issue and their question must be one that can be asked and answered within the fifteen-minute time frame. People using the service will be directed to legal service providers and reference materials for further assistance.

### Limited Legal Assistance Program

Fiscal Year	Litigants Served
22	172
23	161
24	187



# ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

## OSCCE: Office of State Court Collections Enforcement

The Office of State Court Collections Enforcement (OSCCE) pursues the collection of court-ordered financial assessments through a variety of state and private sector sanctions to ensure the enforcement of judicial branch orders. These orders may include, but are not limited to, restitution, statutory surcharges, fines and court costs.

### Fee Reform Efforts

Senate Bill 282 repealed the \$100 Senior Trust Fund Fee; the \$50 Interstate Compact Fee; and the Substance Abuse Rehabilitation, Treatment, Education and Prevention Fund Fee (SARTEP), which is assessed at 15% of all fines, penalties and forfeitures collected by the courts for an applicable criminal offense.

Senate Bill 283 repealed the \$1 DELJIS Fund Fee collected from every adult criminal or traffic defendant and delinquent juvenile.

Senate Bill 284 discharged the outstanding balances of anyone ordered to pay a probation supervision fee before it was repealed in 2021, including approximately \$14.4 million still owed from nearly 70,000 accounts as of January 2023.







## Judicial Information Center

The mission of the Judicial Information Center is to provide strategic IT vision, leadership, and enterprise solutions to the Judicial Branch and its customers, ensuring efficient operations and secure, reliable, and timely access to information.

The Judicial Information Center (JIC) consists of the following units:

- A/V Telecom Team
- Business Solutions and Training Team
- Development Team
- Helpdesk/Technical Support Group
- Information Security
- Operations Team



The Delaware Judicial Branch has kicked off a major initiative to modernize multiple disparate technology platforms. This initiative will centralize the E-Filing, Case Management, Document Management and Reporting solutions employed across the Branch. Through this modernization, we will achieve more efficient operations, greater public access to data, elimination of paper process and a significant expansion to the E-Filing program.





# ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

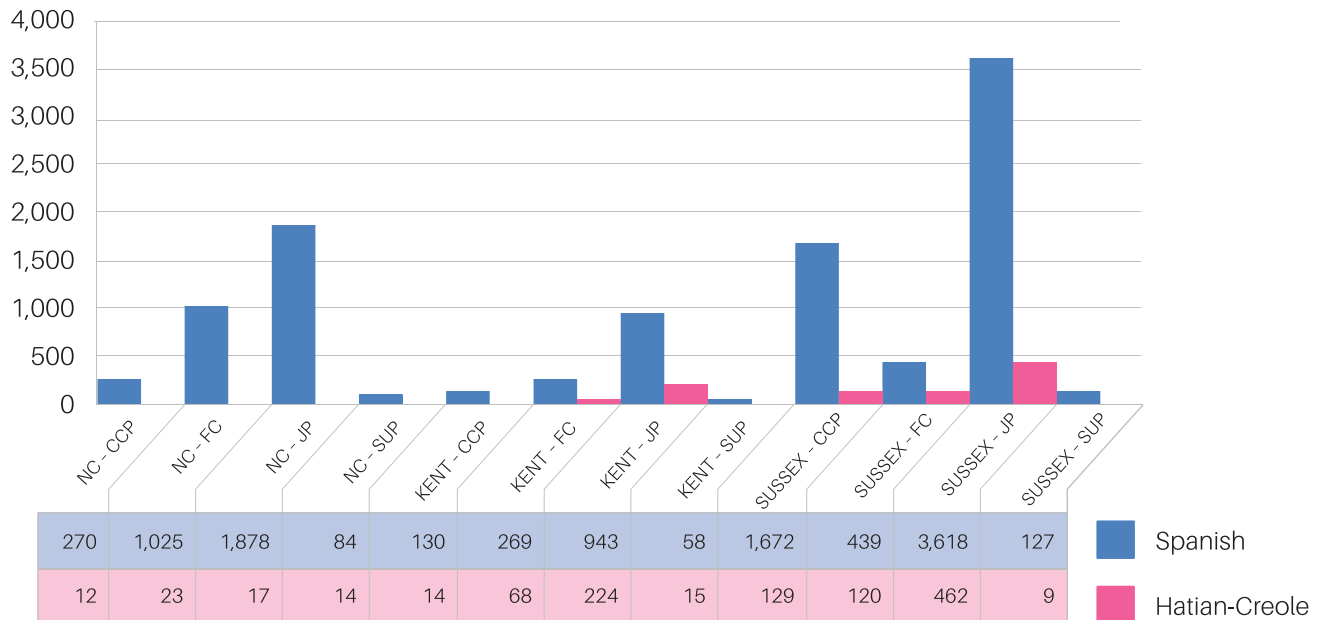
## Interpreter Services

### Delaware Court Interpreter Program

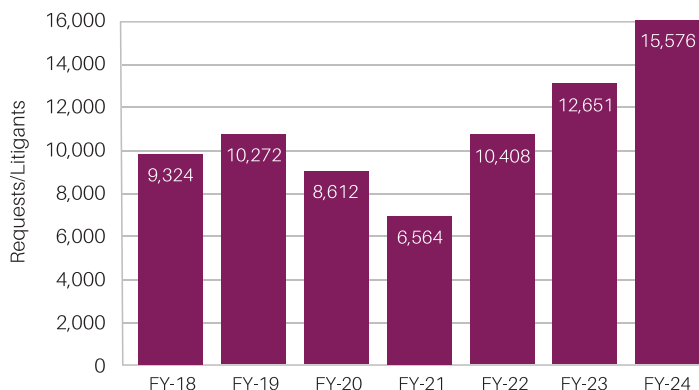


The Delaware Judiciary provides language access to those with limited English proficiency and members of the Deaf and hard of hearing community. The Court Interpreter Program is managed by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) under the direction of the Court Interpreter Advisory Board. Below are several charts detailing the demand for interpretation services.

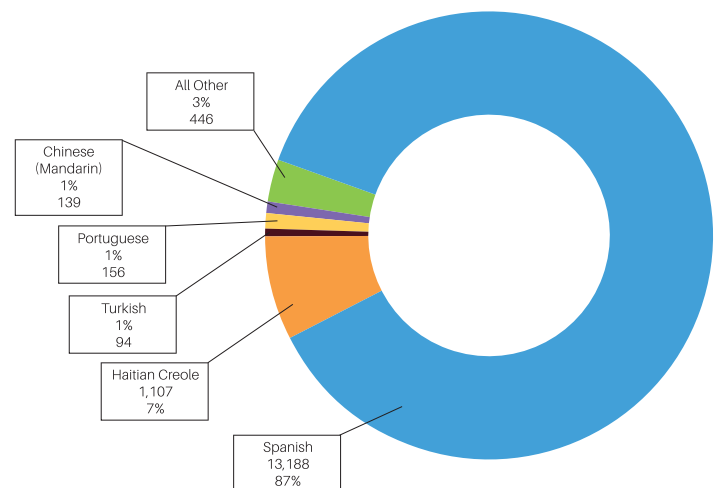
### Fiscal Year 2024 Top Two Languages Requested by Court/County



### Program Requests/Number of Litigants Statewide



### Fiscal Year 2024 Requests for Spoken Language Interpreter Services by Litigants



# ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS



## JUDICIAL BRANCH EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZED

### Charlotte Walsh, Justice of the Peace Court Management Analyst III



Charlotte Walsh, a Justice of the Peace Court Management Analyst III, was named the Judicial Branch Employee of the Year for 2023.

Charlotte, who has been with the Justice of the Peace Court for more than 34 years, started as a clerk in 1989, worked her way up through the ranks to Judicial Case Processor – where she oversaw the clerical staff – and then to Management Analyst III. During that time Charlotte established herself as an expert on court operations and systems, allowing her to lead cross-functional teams and improve a variety of court processes.

She is also well known for her love of data. “When the court has a process that needs to be developed, or a programming issue, Charlotte is usually the first one to know there is something that needs to be fixed and she moves to fix it,” wrote her nominator. This was particularly helpful during the COVID pandemic as the court had to be nimble in the way it was conducting business to keep all involved safe. “She makes system changes just ‘happen’...she makes sure that the court is producing quality work and she is always creative in finding solutions,” wrote her nominator.

### OTHER NOMINEES

**MaryPat Fitzpatrick**, MaryPat Fitzpatrick, Superior Court (former) Chief Deputy Prothonotary (who has since become Human Resources Advisor II). MaryPat is described by her co-workers as “a breath of fresh air who always brightens everyone’s day.”

**MaryJarrell Little**, Court of Common Pleas Human Resources Manager I. MaryJarrell, who has been with the Court of Common Pleas since 2007, is the longest serving Lead Human Resources Professional in the Delaware Judiciary with over 16 ½ years of consecutive service.

**Ramona Monsen**, Court of Chancery Deputy Court Administrator. For nearly 50 years, Ramona has served the State of Delaware, starting with Superior Court in June of 1974, before moving to the Court of Chancery in 1998 as a Judicial Secretary, then an Administrative Officer in 2005, and was named to her current post in 2020.

**Debbie Grossman**, Administrative Office of the Courts Office Manager. Debbie is always going above and beyond for the employees at the Administrative Office of the Courts and the public. One co-worker commented, “I do not know what I would do without Debbie,” while another added, “She is the contact that I always put on my Out of Office when I am going to be out.”

**Karen Stokes-Minus**, Family Court Civil Judicial Operations Manager. Karen began her career with Family Court in 1990 in New Castle County as a Clerk of Court. She was later promoted to a Judicial Case Processing Supervisor, and she has been the Civil Judicial Operations Manager in New Castle County since 2011. Family Court benefits daily from Karen’s wealth of institutional knowledge of the intricacies of more than a dozen case types that are processed by her unit.





## DELAWARE COURTS JUDICIAL BRANCH

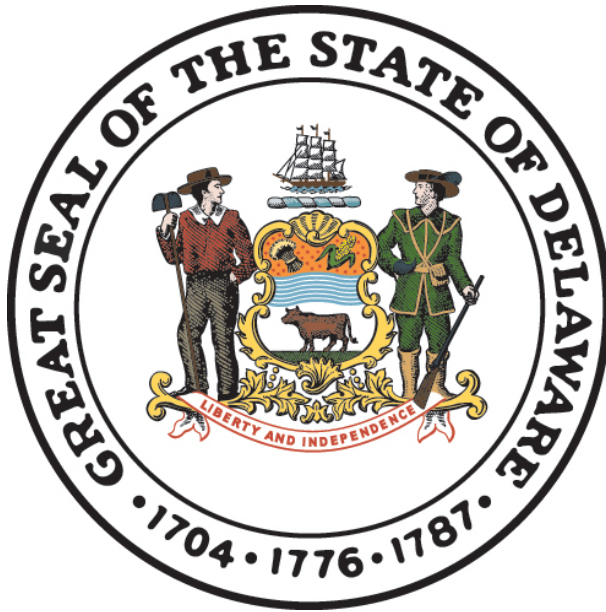
Many thanks to the Presiding Judges, Court Administrators, court staff and others in the courts, and the Administrative Office of the Courts for their efforts in preparing this Annual Report.

<http://courts.delaware.gov> (Delaware Judiciary)

<http://courts.delaware.gov/AOC/AnnualReports/FY24>  
2024 Annual Report, Statistical Report of the Delaware Judiciary and  
additional Delaware Courts background information

This Annual Report is published by the State of Delaware Administrative Office of the Courts  
405 N. King Street, Suite 507  
Wilmington, DE 19801

All photographs (except judicial officers) by AOC Chief of Community  
Relations Sean O' Sullivan, unless otherwise noted.

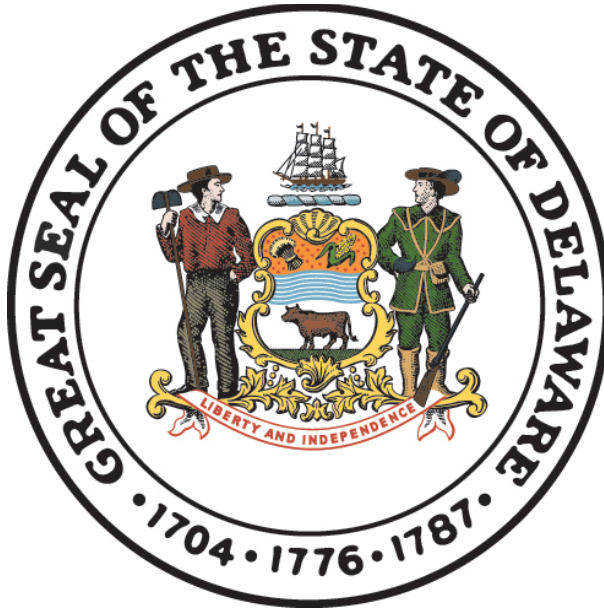


# 2024 Annual Report Statistical Information for the Delaware Judiciary

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# SUPREME COURT State of Delaware

## 2024 Annual Report Statistical Information

## SUPREME COURT

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Filings</b>				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
Criminal Appeals	234	227	-7	-3.0%
Civil Appeals	239	264	25	10.5%
Certifications	1	1	0	0.0%
Original Applications	12	11	-1	-8.3%
Bd. on Prof. Resp.	3	2	-1	-33.3%
Bd. of Bar Exam	1	1	0	0.0%
Advisory Opinions	0	0	0	0%
Other	1	4	3	300.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3.9%</b>

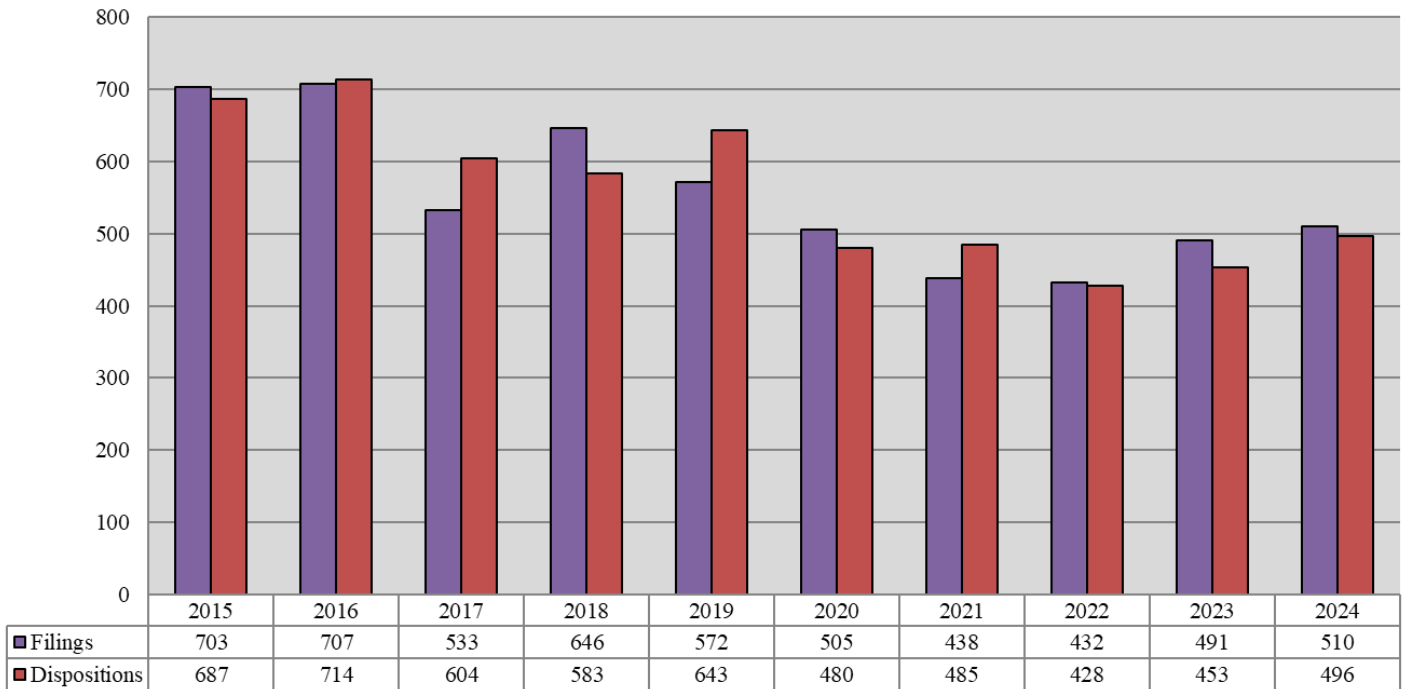
<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Dispositions</b>				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
Criminal Appeals	223	212	-11	-4.9%
Civil Appeals	211	260	49	23.2%
Certifications	0	1	1	0%
Original Applications	11	15	4	36.4%
Bd. on Prof. Resp.	4	3	-1	-25%
Bd. of Bar Exam	2	2	0	0%
Advisory Opinions	0	0	0	0%
Other	2	3	1	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>9.5%</b>

Bd. on Prof. Resp. = Board on Professional Responsibility.

Bd. of Bar Exam. = Board of Bar Examiners.

Source: Court Administrator and Clerk of the Supreme Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

## Supreme Court 10-Year Total Caseload Trend



Fiscal Year

## SUPREME COURT

### Caseload Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2024 - Filings

	Court of Chancery		Superior Court		Family Court		Non-Court Originated		Total	
Criminal Appeals	0	0%	227	100%	0	0%	0	0%	227	100%
Civil Appeals	96	36.4%	96	36.4%	72	27.3%	0	0%	264	100%
Other*	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	19	100%	19	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>18.8%</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>63.3%</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Caseload Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2024 - Dispositions

	Court of Chancery		Superior Court		Family Court		Non-Court Originated		Total	
Criminal Appeals	0	0%	212	100%	0	0%	0	0%	212	100%
Civil Appeals	90	34.6%	109	41.9%	61	23.5%	0	0%	260	100%
Other*	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	24	100%	24	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>18.1%</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>64.7%</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Includes Original Applications; Certifications; Advisory Opinions; Appeals from the Board on Professional Responsibility and the Board of Bar Examiners; and Other Filing & Disposition Types.

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Source: Court Administrator and Clerk of the Supreme Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

## SUPREME COURT

Types of Dispositions - Fiscal Year 2024									
	Affirmed		Affirmed Part/Reversed Part		Reversed		Remanded		Voluntary Dismissal
Criminal Appeals	131	61.8%	1	0.5%	24	11.3%	4	1.9%	9 4.2%
Civil Appeals & Other	120	42.3%	7	2.5%	20	7.0%	2	0.7%	30 10.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>50.6%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>39 7.9%</b>
	Court Dismissal		Leave to Appeal Denied		Other*				Total
Criminal Appeals	42	19.8%	0	0.0%	1	0.5%			212 100%
Civil Appeals & Other	70	24.6%	27	9.5%	8	2.8%			284 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>22.6%</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1.8%</b>			<b>496 100%</b>

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.



## Methods of Dispositions - Fiscal Year 2024

	Assigned Opinion		Per Curiam Opinion		Written Order	
Criminal Appeals	18	8.5%	0	0%	185	87.3%
Civil Appeals	32	12.3%	0	0%	200	76.9%
Certifications	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%
Original Applications	1	7%	0	0%	13	86.7%
Bd. on Prof. Resp.	0	0%	2	67%	1	33.3%
Bd. of Bar Exam.	0	0.0%	0	0%	1	50.0%
Advisory Opinions	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Other	0	0%	2	67%	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>10.5%</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>80.6%</b>
	Voluntary Dismissal		Other		Total	
Criminal Appeals	9	4.2%	0	0%	212	100%
Civil Appeals	28	10.8%	0	0%	260	100%
Certifications	0	0.0%	0	0%	1	100%
Original Applications	1	6.7%	0	0%	15	100%
Bd. on Prof. Resp.	0	0.0%	0	0%	3	100%
Bd. of Bar Exam.	1	50.0%	0	0%	2	100%
Advisory Opinions	0	0%	0	0%	0	-
Other	0	0%	1	33%	3	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>100%</b>

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Bd. on Prof. Resp. = Board on Professional Responsibility.

Bd. of Bar Exam. = Board of Bar Examiners.

Source: Court Administrator and Clerk of the Supreme Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

## SUPREME COURT

Performance Summary - Fiscal Year 2024 - Average Elapsed Time to Disposition					
	Number of Dispositions	Average Time From Filing to Disposition		Average Time From Submission to Disposition*	
Criminal Appeals	212	200.6	days	41.1	days
Civil Appeals	260	171.3	days	34.4	days
Certifications	1	307.0	days	71.0	days
Original Applications	15	85.9	days	25.3	days
BPR	3	101.7	days	48.0	days
BBE	2	134.0	days	3849.5	days
Advisory Opinions	0	-	days	-	days
Other	3	34.0	days	11.7	days
<b>Total</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>177.3</b>	<b>days</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>days</b>

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Average Time from Filing to Disposition						
	2023		2024		Change	% Change
Criminal Appeals	165.0	days	200.6	days	35.6 days	21.6%
Civil Appeals	165.6	days	171.3	days	5.7 days	3.4%
Certifications	-	days	307.0	days	- days	-
Original Applications	52.9	days	85.9	days	33.0 days	62.3%
BPR	122.8	days	101.7	days	-21.1 days	-17.2%
BBE	252.0	days	134.0	days	-118.0 days	-46.8%
Advisory Opinions	-	days	-	days	- days	-
Other	28.0	days	34.0	days	6.0 days	21.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>164.3</b>	<b>days</b>	<b>177.3</b>	<b>days</b>	<b>12.9 days</b>	<b>7.9%</b>

\*Average time from date submitted for judicial decision to actual date of disposition. The time for a case that is submitted and disposed in the same day is zero. Not all Supreme Court cases require a judicial decision.

BPR = Board on Professional Responsibility.

BBE = Board of Bar Examiners.

Source: Court Administrator and Clerk of the Supreme Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

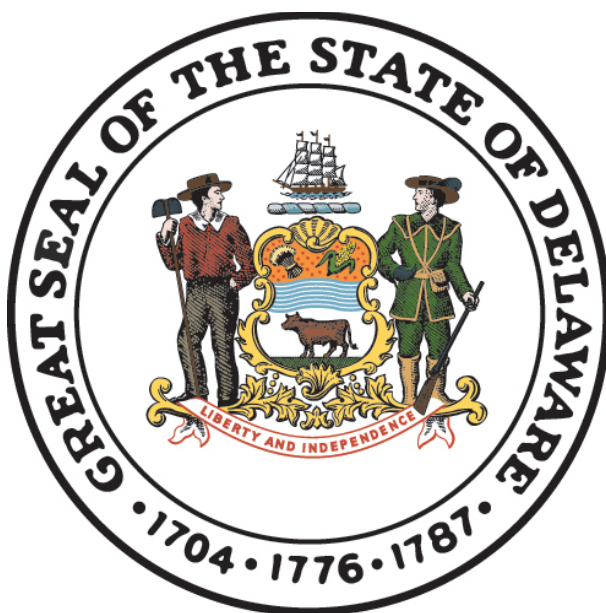
## SUPREME COURT

Performance Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2024 - Elapsed Time by Disposition Type					
	Number of Dispositions	Average Time From Filing to Disposition		Average Time From Submission to Disposition*	
Affirmed	251	243.0	days	49.9	days
Affirmed Part/Reversed Part	8	332.6	days	70.8	days
Reversed	44	333.1	days	69.4	days
Remanded	6	107.8	days	29.2	days
Voluntary Dismissal	39	64.4	days	196.7	days
Court Dismissal	112	76.0	days	12.9	days
Leave to Appeal Denied	27	34.5	days	28.5	days
Other	9	119.7	days	36.0	days
<b>Total</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>177.3</b>	<b>days</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>days</b>

Performance Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2024 - Elapsed Time by Disposition Method					
	Number of Dispositions	Average Time From Filing to Disposition		Average Time From Submission to Disposition*	
Assigned Opinion	52	360.0	days	78.1	days
Per Curiam Opinion	4	95.5	days	40.0	days
Written Order	400	165.7	days	34.3	days
Voluntary Dismissal	39	64.4	days	196.7	days
Other	1	12.0	days	12.0	days
<b>Total</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>177.3</b>	<b>days</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>days</b>

\*Average time from date submitted for judicial decision to actual date of disposition. The time for a case that is submitted and disposed in the same day is zero. Not all Supreme Court cases require a judicial decision.

Source: Court Administrator and Clerk of the Supreme Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.



COURT OF CHANCERY  
State of Delaware

2024 Annual Report Statistical Information



## COURT OF CHANCERY

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Civil Filings

	2023	2024	Change	% Change
<b>State</b>	<b>1,310 *</b>	<b>1,323</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1.0%</b>

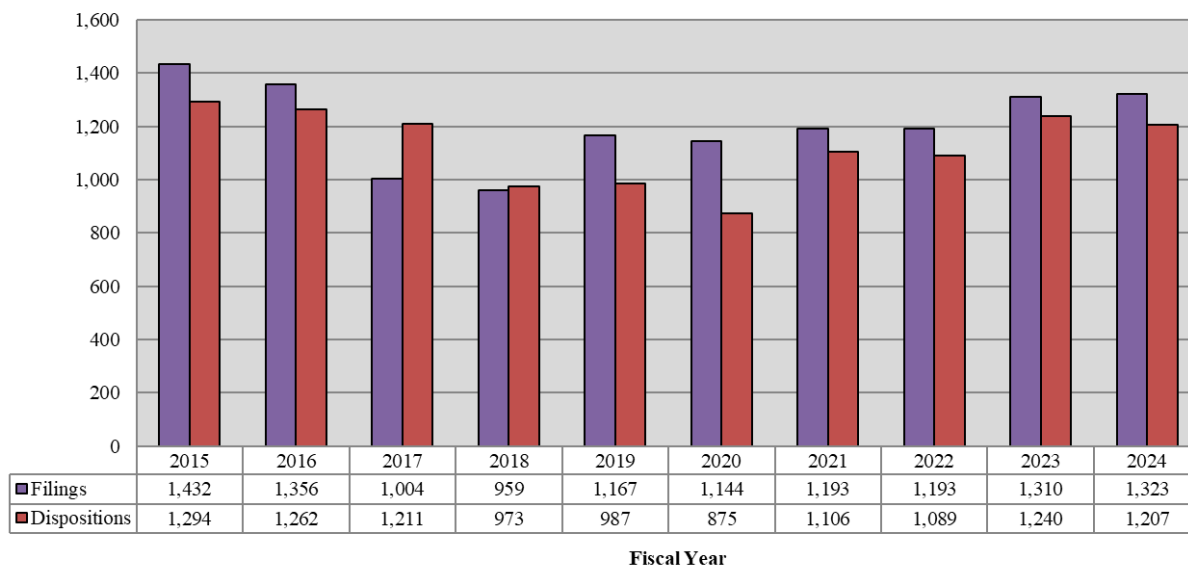
\*Previous FYs reactivated cases were included in this count. Beginning FY23 they were excluded. FY23 saw 52 reactivated cases

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Civil Dispositions

	2023	2024	Change	% Change
<b>State</b>	<b>1,240</b>	<b>1,207</b>	<b>-33</b>	<b>-2.7%</b>

Source: Registers in Chancery; Administrative Office of the Courts.

### Court of Chancery 10-Year Civil Caseload Trend



## COURT OF CHANCERY

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Estates Filings

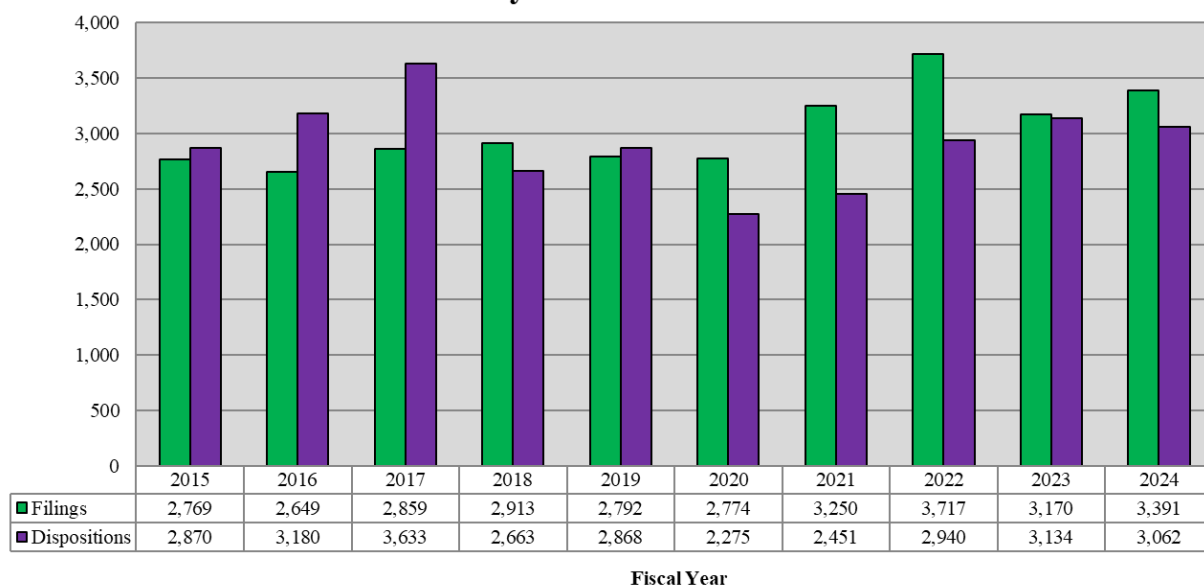
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
<b>State</b>	<b>3,170</b>	<b>3,391</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>7.0%</b>

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Estates Dispositions

	2023	2024	Change	% Change
<b>State</b>	<b>3,134</b>	<b>3,062</b>	<b>-72</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>

Source: Register of Wills; Administrative Office of the Courts.

### Court of Chancery 10-Year Estates Caseload Trend



### COURT OF CHANCERY

#### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Miscellaneous Matters Filings

	2023	2024	Change	% Change
State	377	307	-70	-18.6%

#### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Miscellaneous Matters Dispositions

	2023	2024	Change	% Change
State	311	328	17	5.5%

Source: Register in Chancery; Administrative Office of the Courts.

### COURT OF CHANCERY

#### Caseload Breakdown - Fiscal Year 2024 - Miscellaneous Matters Filings

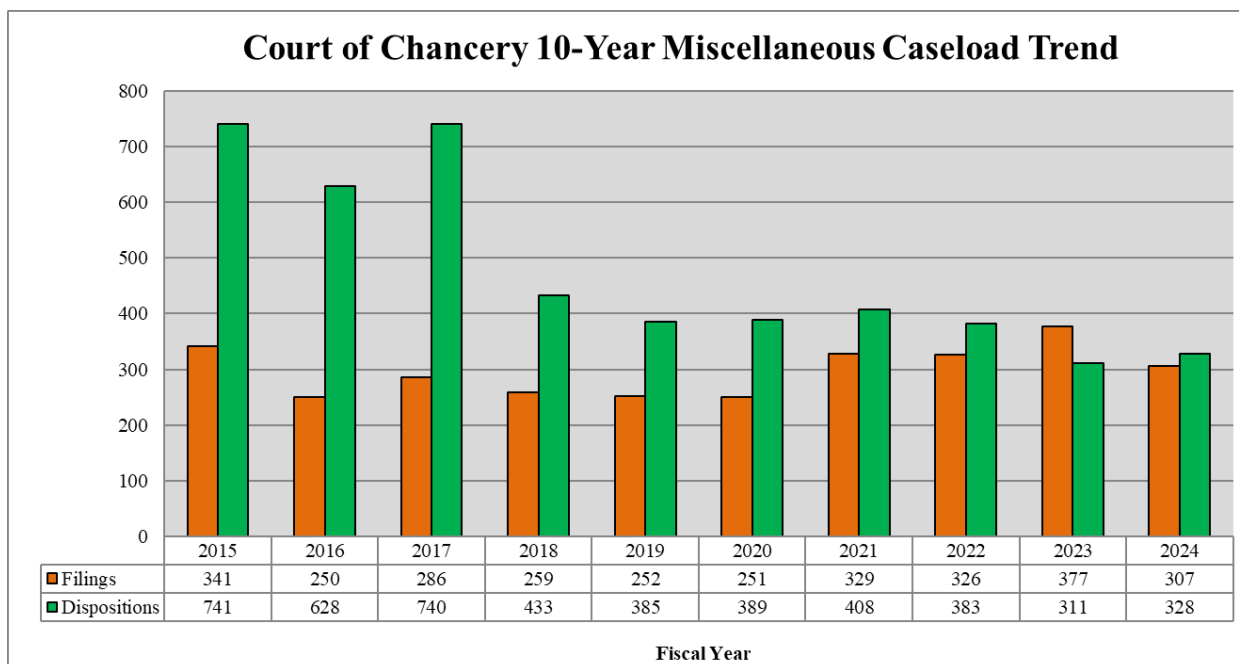
	Guardians for Minors		Guardians for Infirm		Trusts		Other Matters		Total	
State	26	8.5%	279	90.9%	0	0.0%	2	0.7%	307	100%

#### Caseload Breakdown - Fiscal Year 2024 - Miscellaneous Matters Dispositions

	Guardians for Minors		Guardians for Infirm		Trusts		Other Matters		Total	
State	95	29.0%	223	68.0%	7	2.1%	3	0.9%	328	100%

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Source: Register in Chancery; Administrative Office of the Courts.



## COURT OF CHANCERY

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Case Filings\*

	2023	2024	Change	% Change
State	4,857	5,021	164	3.4%

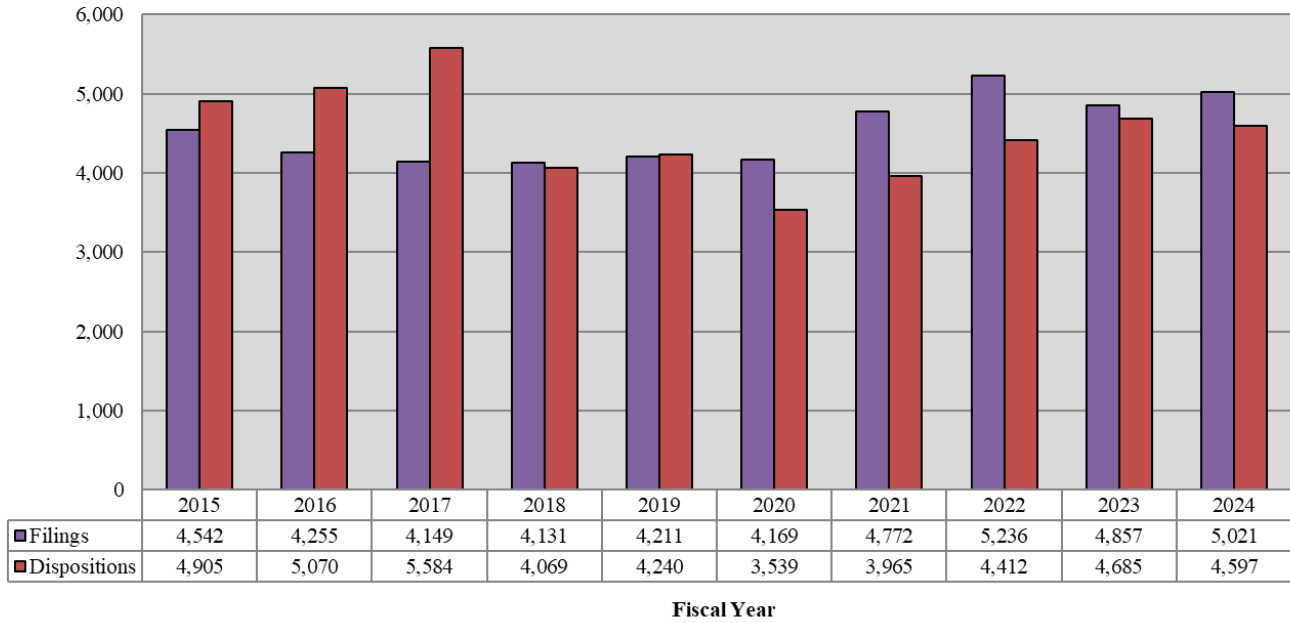
### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Case Dispositions\*

	2023	2024	Change	% Change
State	4,685	4,597	-88	-1.9%

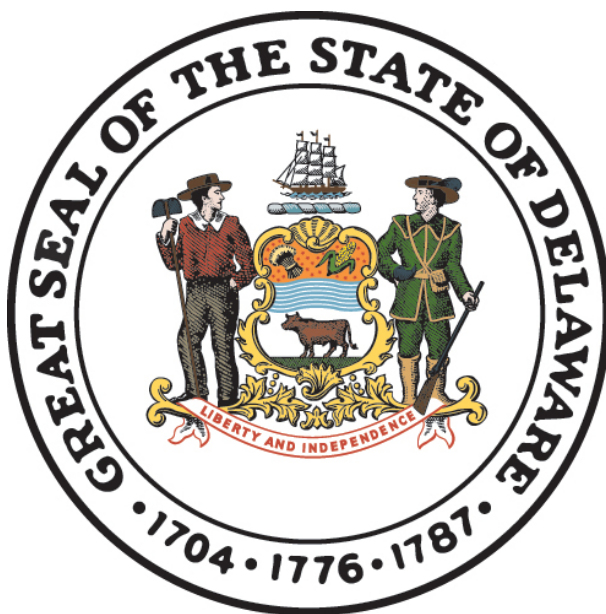
\*Total includes Civil, Miscellaneous, and Estates.

Source: Registers in Chancery; Registers of Wills; Administrative Office of the Courts.

### Court of Chancery 10-Year Total Caseload Trend (Civil, Miscellaneous & Estates)







SUPERIOR COURT  
State of Delaware

2024 Annual Report Statistical Information

## SUPERIOR COURT

Caseload Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2024 - Civil Case Filings						
	Complaints		Mechanic's Liens and Mortgages		Appeals	
New Castle County	3,380	47.7%	812	11.5%	109	1.5%
Kent County	389	33.6%	304	26.3%	31	2.7%
Sussex County	452	35.8%	302	23.9%	15	1.2%
<b>State</b>	<b>4,221</b>	<b>44.4%</b>	<b>1,418</b>	<b>14.9%</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
	Involuntary Commitments		Miscellaneous		Total	
New Castle County	531	7.5%	2,250	31.8%	7,082	100%
Kent County	100	8.6%	333	28.8%	1,157	100%
Sussex County	39	3.1%	453	35.9%	1,261	100%
<b>State</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	<b>3,036</b>	<b>32.0%</b>	<b>9,500</b>	<b>100%</b>

Caseload Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2024 - Civil Case Dispositions						
	Complaints		Mechanic's Liens and Mortgages		Appeals	
New Castle County	2,853	42.7%	954	14.3%	113	1.7%
Kent County	439	36.3%	347	28.7%	23	1.9%
Sussex County	409	32.9%	335	26.9%	23	1.8%
<b>State</b>	<b>3,701</b>	<b>40.5%</b>	<b>1,636</b>	<b>17.9%</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>1.7%</b>
	Involuntary Commitments		Miscellaneous		Total	
New Castle County	422	6.3%	2,337	35.0%	6,679	100%
Kent County	80	6.6%	321	26.5%	1,210	100%
Sussex County	47	3.8%	431	34.6%	1,245	100%
<b>State</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>3,089</b>	<b>33.8%</b>	<b>9,134</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Prothonotary's Offices, Superior Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

## SUPERIOR COURT

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Civil Case Filings

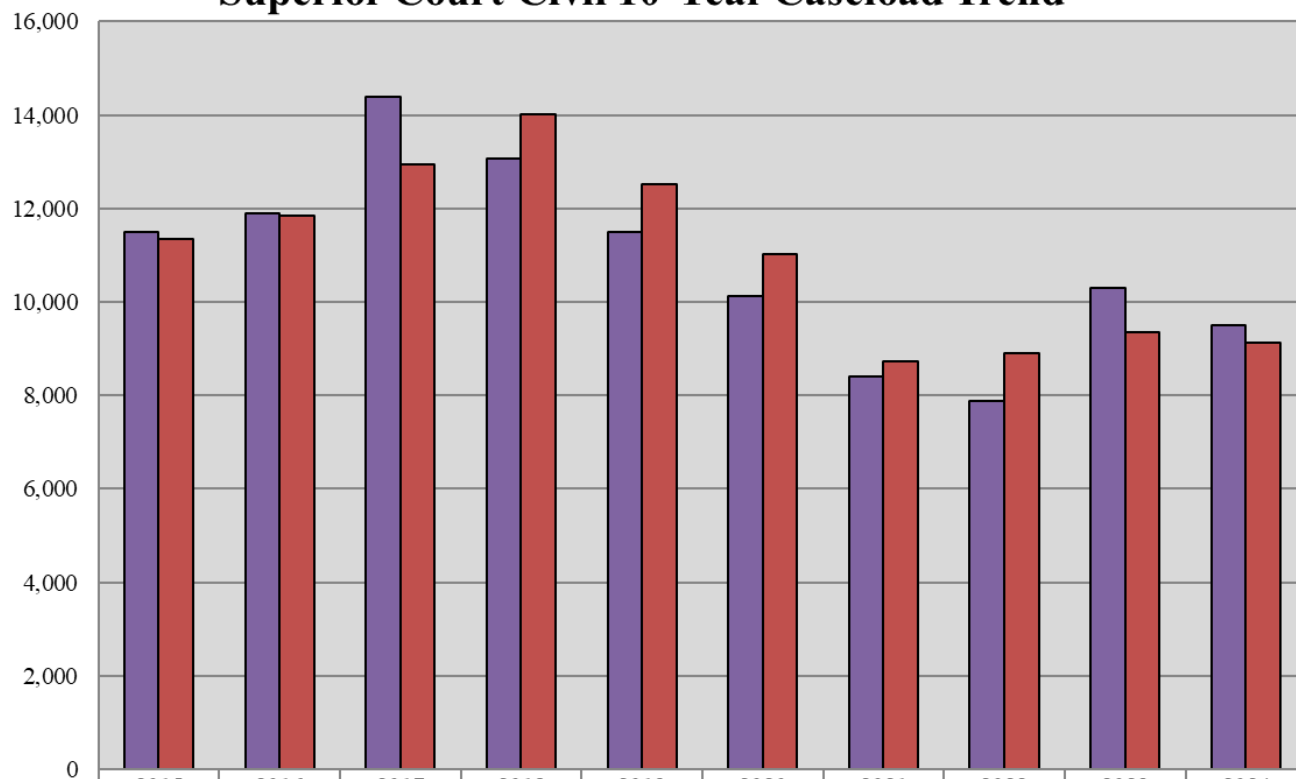
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	7,968	7,082	-886	-11.1%
Kent County	1,179	1,157	-22	-1.9%
Sussex County	1,160	1,261	101	8.7%
<b>State</b>	<b>10,307</b>	<b>9,500</b>	<b>-807</b>	<b>-7.8%</b>

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Civil Case Dispositions

	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	7,066	6,679	-387	-5.5%
Kent County	1,128	1,210	82	7.3%
Sussex County	1,154	1,245	91	7.9%
<b>State</b>	<b>9,348</b>	<b>9,134</b>	<b>-214</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>

Source: Prothonotary's Offices, Superior Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

### Superior Court Civil 10-Year Caseload Trend



Filings	11,498	11,890	14,394	13,076	11,492	10,117	8,408	7,882	10,307	9,500
Dispositions	11,338	11,857	12,934	14,026	12,522	11,023	8,731	8,911	9,348	9,134

Fiscal Year

\* Report incorporates additional data made available since publication of the FY 2015 Annual Report.

## SUPERIOR COURT

Caseload Breakdowns- Fiscal Year 2024 - Criminal Filings									
	Indictment		Rule 9 Warrant		Information		Other*		Total
New Castle County	1,631	64.7%	81	3.2%	775	30.7%	34	1.3%	2,521
Kent County	487	76.2%	13	2.0%	129	20.2%	10	1.6%	639
Sussex County	871	64.4%	173	12.8%	294	21.7%	14	1.0%	1,352
<b>State</b>	<b>2,989</b>	<b>66.2%</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>1,198</b>	<b>26.6%</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>4,512</b>

Caseload Breakdowns- Fiscal Year 2024 - Criminal Dispositions										
	Trial		Guilty Plea**		Nolle Prosequi		Remand/Transfer		Order/Reserved Decision	
New Castle County	141	4.6%	2,097	68.8%	804	26.4%	1	0.0%	0	0%
Kent County	14	2.2%	468	73.0%	141	22.0%	4	0.6%	0	0%
Sussex County	16	1.1%	1,140	81.2%	224	16.0%	4	0.3%	0	N/A
<b>State</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>3,705</b>	<b>72.7%</b>	<b>1,169</b>	<b>23.0%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0%</b>
	Dismissal		Diversion		Consolidation		Total			
New Castle County	3	0.1%	2	0.1%	-	0%	3,048	100%		
Kent County	1	0.2%	13	2.0%	-	0%	641	100%		
Sussex County	10	0.7%	10	0.7%	-	0%	1,404	100%		
<b>State</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>5,093</b>	<b>100%</b>		

\*Includes appeals, reinstatements, guilty pleas withdrawn, granted motions for new trial and severances.

\*\*Includes Probation Before Judgment & Guilty but Mentally Ill, First Offender Program & civil possession of marijuana (RSP).

FOP = First Offender Program.

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Source: Court Administrator and Case Scheduling Office, Superior Court;

Administrative Office of the Courts.



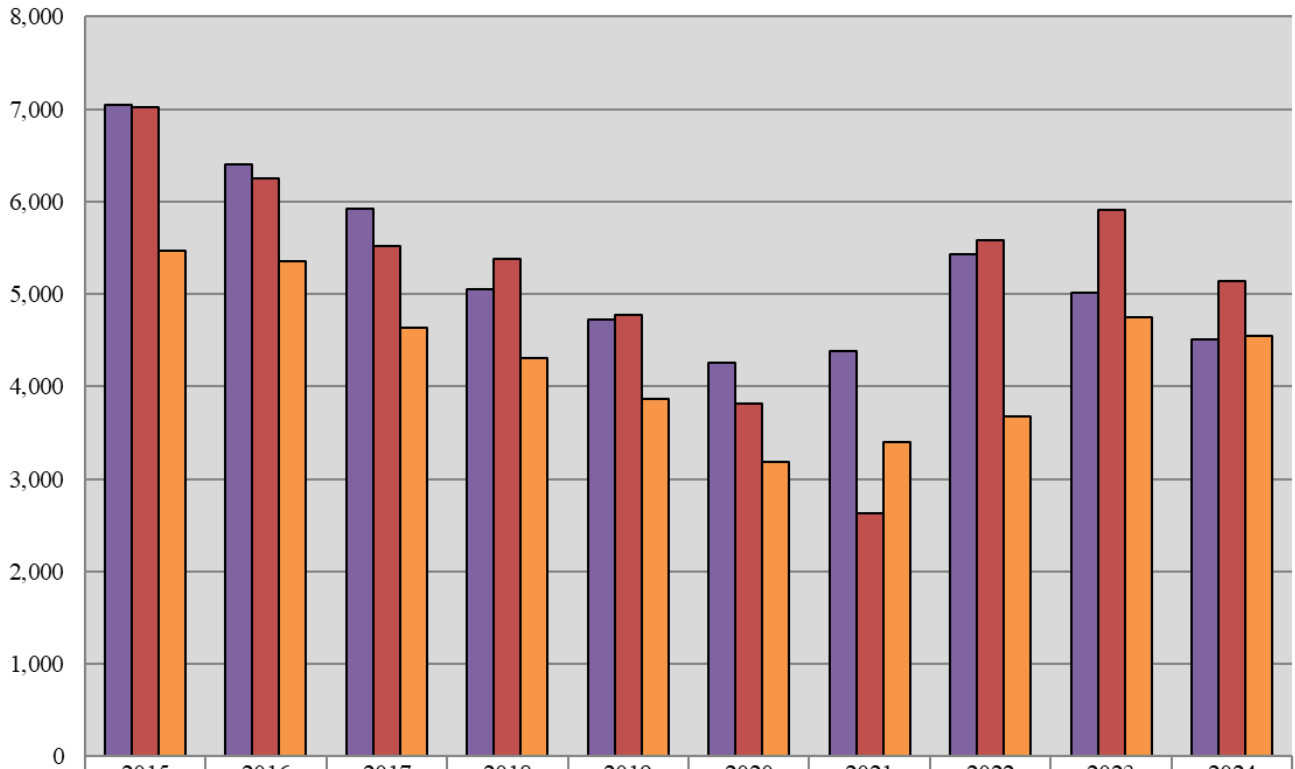
## SUPERIOR COURT

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Criminal Case Filings</b>				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	2,874	2,521	-353	-12.3%
Kent County	788	639	-149	-18.9%
Sussex County	1,352	1,352	0	0.0%
<b>State</b>	<b>5,014</b>	<b>4,512</b>	<b>-502</b>	<b>-10.0%</b>

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Criminal Case Dispositions</b>				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	3,363	3,084	-279	-8.3%
Kent County	926	650	-276	-29.8%
Sussex County	1,620	1,411	-209	-12.9%
<b>State</b>	<b>5,909</b>	<b>5,145</b>	<b>-764</b>	<b>-12.9%</b>

Source: Court Administrator and Case Scheduling Office, Superior Court;  
Administrative Office of the Courts.

## Superior Court Criminal 10-Year Caseload Trend



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Filings	7,042	6,402	5,921	5,056	4,719	4,258	4,385	5,427	5,014	4,512
Dispositions	7,016	6,252	5,513	5,379	4,776	3,811	2,633	5,576	5,909	5,145
VOP Filings	5,465	5,358	4,639	4,307	3,865	3,179	3,402	3,673	4,743	4,553

**Fiscal Year**

VOP = Violation of Probation

## SUPERIOR COURT

Types of Dispositions Fiscal Year 2024 - Criminal Felony Guilty Pleas						
	Pled Guilty Original		Pled Guilty Lesser		Total	
New Castle County	1,211	87.1%	180	12.9%	1,391	100%
Kent County	294	83.3%	59	16.7%	353	100%
Sussex County	640	91.4%	60	8.6%	700	100%
<b>State</b>	<b>2,145</b>	<b>87.8%</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>2,444</b>	<b>100%</b>

Types of Dispositions Fiscal Year 2024 - Criminal Misdemeanor Guilty Pleas						
	Pled Guilty Original		Pled Guilty Lesser*		Total	
New Castle County	396	56.1%	310	43.9%	706	100%
Kent County	51	44.3%	64	55.7%	115	100%
Sussex County	179	40.7%	261	59.3%	440	100%
<b>State</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>49.6%</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>50.4%</b>	<b>1,261</b>	<b>100%</b>

Types of Dispositions Fiscal Year 2024 - Criminal Total Guilty Pleas						
	Pled Guilty Original		Pled Guilty Lesser*		Total	
New Castle County	1,607	76.6%	490	23.4%	2,097	100%
Kent County	345	73.7%	123	26.3%	468	100%
Sussex County	819	71.8%	321	28.2%	1,140	100%
<b>State</b>	<b>2,771</b>	<b>74.8%</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>25.2%</b>	<b>3,705</b>	<b>100%</b>

Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

\*Includes Probation Before Judgment & Guilty but Mentally Ill, First Offender Program & civil possession of marijuana (RSP).

Source: Court Administrator and Case Scheduling Office, Superior Court;

Administrative Office of the Courts.

## SUPERIOR COURT

Types of Dispositions - Fiscal Year 2024 - Criminal Trials - Part One							
	Jury Trial		Non-Jury Trial		Total		
New Castle County	119	84.4%	22	15.6%	141	100%	
Kent County	13	92.9%	1	7.1%	14	100%	
Sussex County	13	81.3%	3	18.8%	16	100%	
<b>State</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>84.8%</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>15.2%</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>100%</b>	
	Guilty		Not Guilty*		No Final Disposition**		Total
New Castle County	107	75.9%	29	20.6%	5	3.5%	141
Kent County	12	85.7%	2	14.3%	0	0%	14
Sussex County	7	43.8%	5	31.3%	4	25.0%	16
<b>State</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>73.7%</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>21.1%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>171</b>

\*Includes Acquittals, Dismissals at Trial, and Nolle Prosequis at Trial.

\*\*Includes Hung Juries, Mistrials, and Reserved Decisions.

Source: Court Administrator and Case Scheduling Office, Superior Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

## SUPERIOR COURT

Types of Dispositions - Fiscal Year 2024 - Criminal Trials - Part Two								
Jury Trial								
	Guilty	Guilty LIO	Not Guilty	Pled Guilty at Trial	Nol Pros/Dismissed at Trial	Mistrial	Hung Jury	Total
New Castle County	85	3	24	1	1	2	3	119
Kent County	10	1	2	0	0	0	0	13
Sussex County	6	0	2	0	1	3	1	13
<b>State</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>145</b>
Non-Jury Trial								
	Guilty	Guilty LIO	Not Guilty	Pled Guilty at Trial	Nol Pros/Dismissed at Trial	Mistrial	Reserved Decision	Total*
New Castle County	18	0	4	0	0	0	0	22
Kent County	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sussex County	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	3
<b>State</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>



All Trials									
	Guilty	Guilty LIO	Not Guilty	Pled Guilty at Trial	Nol Pros/Dismissed at Trial	Mistrial	Hung Jury	Reserved Decision	Total
New Castle County	103	3	28	1	1	2	3	0	141
Kent County	11	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	14
Sussex County	7	0	4	0	1	3	1	0	16
<b>State</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>171</b>

Types of Dispositions Fiscal Year 2024 - Criminal Nolle Prosequis									
	Nolle Prosequis By Special Condition		Nolle Prosequis By Merit		NPL		Total		
New Castle County	500	62.2%	279	34.7%	25	3.1%	804	100%	
Kent County	66	46.8%	75	53.2%	0	0%	141	100%	
Sussex County	25	11.2%	199	88.8%	0	0%	224	100%	
<b>State</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>50.6%</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>47.3%</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>1,169</b>	<b>100%</b>	

NPL = Nolle Prosequi entered at time of Sentencing

Source: Court Administrator and Case Scheduling Office, Superior Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding

## SUPERIOR COURT

Performance Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Criminal Cases - Average Time from Arrest to Disposition				
	2023 (in days)	2024 (in days)	Change (in days)	% Change
New Castle County	398.2	403.0	4.8	1.2%
Kent County	270.9	247.8	-23.1	-8.5%
Sussex County	311.0	281.0	-30.0	-9.6%
<b>State</b>	<b>354.2</b>	<b>349.8</b>	<b>-4.4</b>	<b>-1.2%</b>

Performance Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Criminal Cases - Average Time from Indictment to Disposition				
	2023 (in days)	2024 (in days)	Change (in days)	% Change
New Castle County	257.3	265.5	8.2	3.2%
Kent County	153.2	145.3	-7.9	-5.2%
Sussex County	231.8	216.6	-15.2	-6.6%
<b>State</b>	<b>233.9</b>	<b>236.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>1.3%</b>

Source: Court Administrator and Case Scheduling Office, Superior Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

# SUPERIOR COURT

## Performance Summary Fiscal Year 2024 - Criminal Cases - Elapsed Time

	Total Number of Cases Disposed	Average Time from Arrest to Disposition	Average Time from Indictment to Disposition
New Castle County	3,048	403.0 days	265.5 days
Kent County	641	247.8 days	145.3 days
Sussex County	1,404	281.0 days	216.6 days
<b>State</b>	<b>5,093</b>	<b>349.8 days</b>	<b>236.9 days</b>

## Performance Summary Fiscal Year 2024 - Criminal Cases - Compliance with Speedy Trial Standards

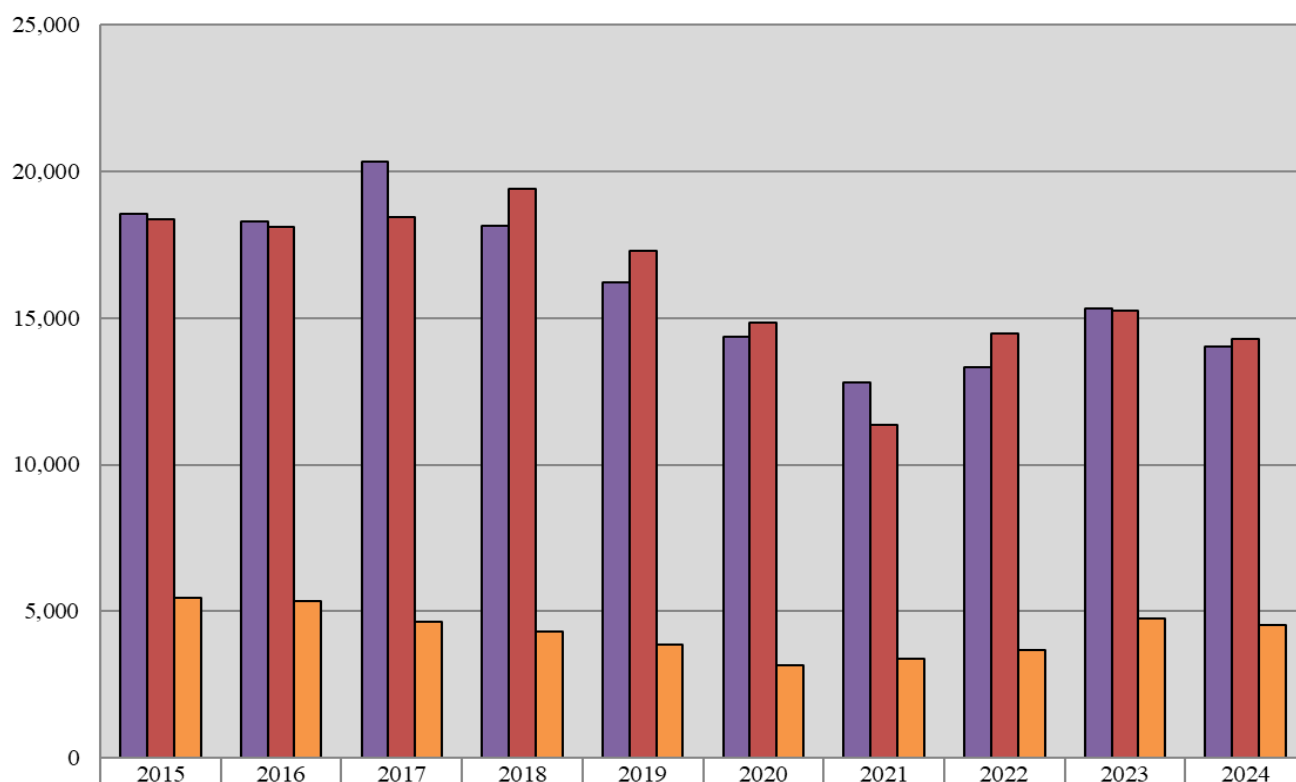
	Total Number of Cases Disposed	Disposed of within 120 Days of Indictment (90%)		Disposed of within 180 Days of Indictment (98%)		Disposed of within 365 Days of Indictment (100%)	
New Castle County	3,048	1,353	44.4%	1,791	58.8%	2,570	84.3%
Kent County	641	305	47.6%	453	70.7%	587	91.6%
Sussex County	1,404	559	39.8%	842	60.0%	1,212	86.3%
<b>State</b>	<b>5,093</b>	<b>2,217</b>	<b>43.5%</b>	<b>3,086</b>	<b>60.6%</b>	<b>4,369</b>	<b>85.8%</b>

### Criminal Cases Performance Explanatory Notes - Fiscal Year 2024

- The performance summary charts measure the average time from the date of arrest to the date of disposition as well as the average time from the date of indictment/information to the date of disposition.
- In measuring the elapsed time for defendants for the purpose of determining the rate of compliance with the speedy trial standards, the following are excluded by the Court:
  - For all capiases, the time between the date that the capias is issued and the date that it is executed.
  - For all Rule 9 summonses and Rule 9 warrants, the time between the arrest and the indictment/information, if any.
  - For all mental examinations, the time between the date that the examination is ordered and the date of the receipt of the results.
  - For all defendants deemed to be incompetent, the period in which the defendant is considered incompetent.

Source: Court Administrator and Case Scheduling Office, Superior Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

## Superior Court Total 10-Year Caseload Trend



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Filings	18,540	18,292	20,315	18,132	16,211	14,375	12,793	13,309	15,321	14,012
Dispositions	18,354	18,109	18,447	19,405	17,298	14,834	11,364	14,487	15,257	14,279
VOP Filings	5,465	5,358	4,639	4,307	3,865	3,179	3,402	3,673	4,743	4,553

Fiscal Year

## SUPERIOR COURT

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Case Filings

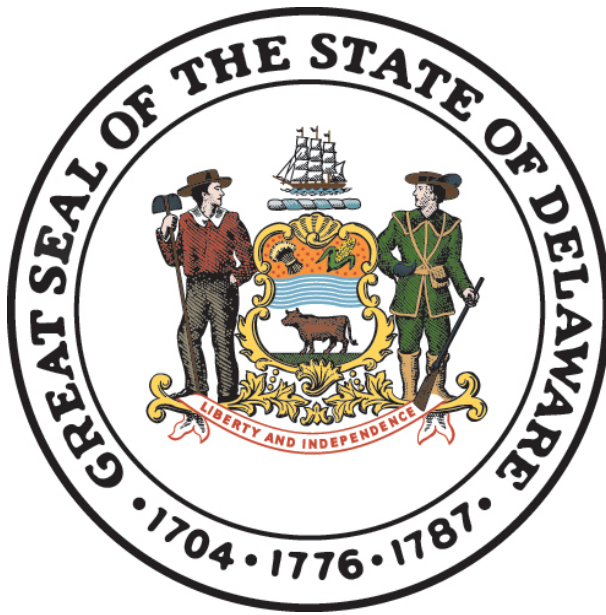
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	10,842	9,603	-1,239	-11.4%
Kent County	1,967	1,796	-171	-8.7%
Sussex County	2,512	2,613	101	4.0%
<b>State</b>	<b>15,321</b>	<b>14,012</b>	<b>-1,309</b>	<b>-8.5%</b>

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Case Dispositions

	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	10,429	9,763	-666	-6.4%
Kent County	2,054	1,860	-194	-9.4%
Sussex County	2,774	2,656	-118	-4.3%
<b>State</b>	<b>15,257</b>	<b>14,279</b>	<b>-978</b>	<b>-6.4%</b>

Source: Court Administrator, Prothonotary's Offices, and Case Scheduling Office,  
Superior Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.





FAMILY COURT  
State of Delaware

2024 Annual Report Statistical Information

## FAMILY COURT

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Adult Criminal Case Filings</b>				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	2,635	2,705	70	2.7%
Kent County	1,024	1,041	17	1.7%
Sussex County	852	854	2	0.2%
<b>State</b>	<b>4,511</b>	<b>4,600</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>2.0%</b>

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Adult Criminal Dispositions</b>				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	3,438	3,265	-173	-5.0%
Kent County	944	1,417	473	50.1%
Sussex County	859	844	-15	-1.7%
<b>State</b>	<b>5,241</b>	<b>5,526</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>5.4%</b>

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Civil Case Filings</b>				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	17,014	17,921	907	5.3%
Kent County	6,762	6,913	151	2.2%
Sussex County	7,521	7,657	136	1.8%
<b>State</b>	<b>31,297</b>	<b>32,491</b>	<b>1,194</b>	<b>3.8%</b>

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Civil Case Dispositions</b>				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	16,439	18,684	2,245	13.7%
Kent County	6,834	7,031	197	2.9%
Sussex County	7,761	7,501	-260	-3.4%
<b>State</b>	<b>31,034</b>	<b>33,216</b>	<b>2,182</b>	<b>7.0%</b>

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts

## FAMILY COURT

Caseload Breakdown - Fiscal Year 2024 - Civil Case Filings							
	Child Support/New Non-support		Child Support/Modifications		Child Support/Arrearages		Child Support/Verified Notice of Income Attachment
New Castle County	2,740	15.3%	755	4.2%	1,289	7.2%	2 0.0%
Kent County	961	13.9%	377	5.5%	254	3.7%	0 0.0%
Sussex County	1,182	15.4%	310	4.0%	1,037	13.5%	0 0.0%
<b>State</b>	<b>4,883</b>	<b>15.0%</b>	<b>1,442</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>2,580</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>2 0.0%</b>
	Child Support/Determination of Parentage		Child Support/Revocation		Child Support/Registration of Foreign Order		Child Support/Notice of Admin. Adjustment
New Castle County	153	0.9%	176	1.0%	143	0.8%	2,415 13.5%
Kent County	47	0.7%	54	0.8%	60	0.9%	746 10.8%
Sussex County	48	0.6%	61	0.8%	45	0.6%	1,431 18.7%
<b>State</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>4,592 14.1%</b>
	Child Support/Other Support		Custody		Dependency/Neglect		Visitation
New Castle County	6	0.0%	1,605	9.0%	155	0.9%	210 1.2%
Kent County	7	0.1%	681	9.9%	65	0.9%	60 0.9%
Sussex County	2	0.0%	612	8.0%	30	0.4%	77 1.0%
<b>State</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>2,898</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>347 1.1%</b>
	Termination of Parental Rights		Cases with Ancillaries		Guardianship		Spousal Support
New Castle County	121	0.7%	617	3.4%	786	4.4%	48 0.3%
Kent County	37	0.5%	280	4.1%	419	6.1%	23 0.3%
Sussex County	24	0.3%	273	3.6%	368	4.8%	10 0.1%
<b>State</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>1,170</b>	<b>3.6%</b>	<b>1,573</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>81 0.2%</b>
	Expungements (Juv. & Adult)		Imperiling Family Relationships		Protection from Abuse		Divorce/Annulment
New Castle County	1,570	8.8%	16	0.1%	2,678	14.9%	1,542 8.6%
Kent County	382	5.5%	6	0.1%	1,398	20.2%	694 10.0%
Sussex County	433	5.7%	2	0.0%	762	10.0%	695 9.1%
<b>State</b>	<b>2,385</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>4,838</b>	<b>14.9%</b>	<b>2,931 9.0%</b>
	Rules to Show Cause/Other Civil Contempt		Minor Name Change		Miscellaneous Civil		Adoption
New Castle County	452	2.5%	180	1.0%	132	0.7%	130 0.7%
Kent County	196	2.8%	68	1.0%	54	0.8%	44 0.6%
Sussex County	108	1.4%	57	0.7%	51	0.7%	39 0.5%
<b>State</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>213 0.7%</b>
	Total						
New Castle County	17,921	100%					
Kent County	6,913	100%					
Sussex County	7,657	100%					
<b>State</b>	<b>32,491</b>	<b>100%</b>					

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

## FAMILY COURT

Caseload Breakdown - Fiscal Year 2024 - Civil Case Dispositions							
	Child Support/New Non-support		Child Support/Modifications		Child Support/Arrearages		Child Support/Verified Notice of Income Attachment
New Castle County	3,416	18.3%	745	4.0%	906	4.8%	2 0.0%
Kent County	983	14.0%	369	5.2%	314	4.5%	0 0.0%
Sussex County	1,116	14.9%	338	4.5%	896	11.9%	0 0.0%
<b>State</b>	<b>5,515</b>	<b>16.6%</b>	<b>1,452</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>2,116</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	<b>2 0.0%</b>
	Child Support/Determination of Parentage		Child Support/Revocation		Child Support/Registration of Foreign Order		Child Support/Notice of Admin. Adjustment
New Castle County	178	1.0%	202	1.1%	137	0.7%	2,398 12.8%
Kent County	75	1.1%	60	0.9%	58	0.8%	726 10.3%
Sussex County	51	0.7%	58	0.8%	39	0.5%	1,435 19.1%
<b>State</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>4,559 13.7%</b>
	Child Support/Other Support		Custody		Dependency/Neglect		Visitation
New Castle County	10	0.1%	1,680	9.0%	186	1.0%	209 1.1%
Kent County	5	0.1%	716	10.2%	52	0.7%	83 1.2%
Sussex County	1	0.0%	632	8.4%	39	0.5%	80 1.1%
<b>State</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>3,028</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>372 1.1%</b>
	Termination of Parental Rights		Cases with Ancillaries		Guardianship		Spousal Support
New Castle County	124	0.7%	373	2.0%	856	4.6%	50 0.3%
Kent County	37	0.5%	176	2.5%	447	6.4%	21 0.3%
Sussex County	28	0.4%	181	2.4%	423	5.6%	11 0.1%
<b>State</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>1,726</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>82 0.2%</b>
	Expungements (Juv. & Adult)		Imperiling Family Relationships		Protection from Abuse		Divorce/Annulment
New Castle County	1,821	9.7%	13	0.1%	2,748	14.7%	1,727 9.2%
Kent County	394	5.6%	4	0.1%	1,385	19.7%	759 10.8%
Sussex County	425	5.7%	4	0.1%	777	10.4%	685 9.1%
<b>State</b>	<b>2,640</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>4,910</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>3,171 9.5%</b>
	Rules to Show Cause/Other Civil Contempt		Minor Name Change		Miscellaneous Civil		Adoption
New Castle County	450	2.4%	212	1.1%	128	0.7%	113 0.6%
Kent County	189	2.7%	69	1.0%	70	1.0%	39 0.6%
Sussex County	129	1.7%	69	0.9%	48	0.6%	36 0.5%
<b>State</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>188 0.6%</b>
	Total						
New Castle County	18,684	100%					
Kent County	7,031	100%					
Sussex County	7,501	100%					
<b>State</b>	<b>33,216</b>	<b>100%</b>					

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

## FAMILY COURT

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Filings				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	1,607	1,906	299	18.6%
Kent County	835	806	-29	-3.5%
Sussex County	719	1,029	310	43.1%
<b>State</b>	<b>3,161</b>	<b>3,741</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>18.3%</b>

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Dispositions				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	1,559	1,952	393	25.2%
Kent County	628	1,069	441	70.2%
Sussex County	817	1,018	201	24.6%
<b>State</b>	<b>3,004</b>	<b>4,039</b>	<b>1,035</b>	<b>34.5%</b>

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts

## FAMILY COURT

Caseload Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2024 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Filings								
	Felony		Misdemeanor		Traffic		Truancy	
New Castle County	681	35.7%	800	42.0%	141	7.4%	9	0.5%
Kent County	260	32.3%	334	41.4%	85	10.5%	14	1.7%
Sussex County	198	19.2%	522	50.7%	152	14.8%	7	0.7%
<b>State</b>	<b>1,139</b>	<b>30.4%</b>	<b>1,656</b>	<b>44.3%</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>10.1%</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
	VOP		All Other Charges		Total			
New Castle County	212	11.1%	63	3.3%	1,906	100%		
Kent County	46	5.7%	67	8.3%	806	100%		
Sussex County	38	3.7%	112	10.9%	1,029	100%		
<b>State</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>3,741</b>	<b>100%</b>		

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.



## Caseload Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2024 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Dispositions

	Felony		Misdemeanor		Traffic		Truancy	
New Castle County	687	35.2%	864	44.3%	151	7.7%	7	0.4%
Kent County	205	19.2%	647	60.5%	103	9.6%	10	0.9%
Sussex County	150	14.7%	603	59.2%	147	14.4%	5	0.5%
<b>State</b>	<b>1,042</b>	<b>25.8%</b>	<b>2,114</b>	<b>52.3%</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>9.9%</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
	VOP		All Other Charges		Total			
New Castle County	184	9.4%	59	3.0%	1,952	100%		
Kent County	32	3.0%	72	6.7%	1,069	100%		
Sussex County	25	2.5%	88	8.6%	1,018	100%		
<b>State</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>4,039</b>	<b>100%</b>		

VOP = Violations of Probation.

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

## FAMILY COURT

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024- Mediation Hearings Scheduled

	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	2,327	5,667	3,340	143.5%
Kent County	1,132	2,642	1,510	133.4%
Sussex County	1,828	2,639	811	44.4%
<b>State</b>	<b>5,287</b>	<b>10,948</b>	<b>5,661</b>	<b>107.1%</b>

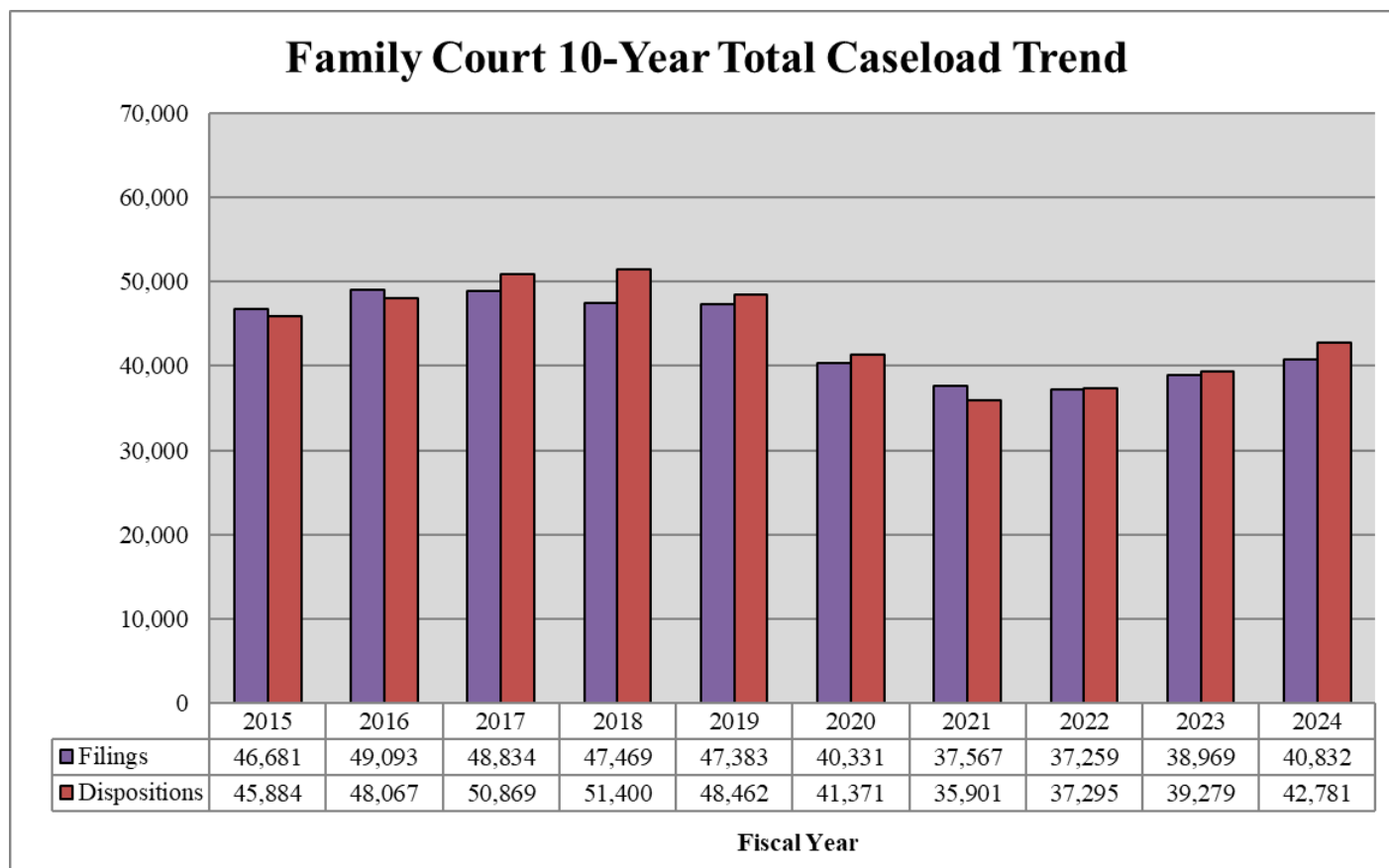
Note: Mediation is the process prior to adjudication in which a trained mediator attempts to assist the parties in reaching an agreement. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement, the matter is scheduled to be heard before a Commissioner or Judge.

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

## FAMILY COURT

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Case Filings				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	21,256	22,532	1,276	6.0%
Kent County	8,621	8,760	139	1.6%
Sussex County	9,092	9,540	448	4.9%
<b>State</b>	<b>38,969</b>	<b>40,832</b>	<b>1,863</b>	<b>4.8%</b>

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024- Total Case Dispositions				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	21,436	23,901	2,465	11.5%
Kent County	8,406	9,517	1,111	13.2%
Sussex County	9,437	9,363	-74	-0.8%
<b>State</b>	<b>39,279</b>	<b>42,781</b>	<b>3,502</b>	<b>8.9%</b>



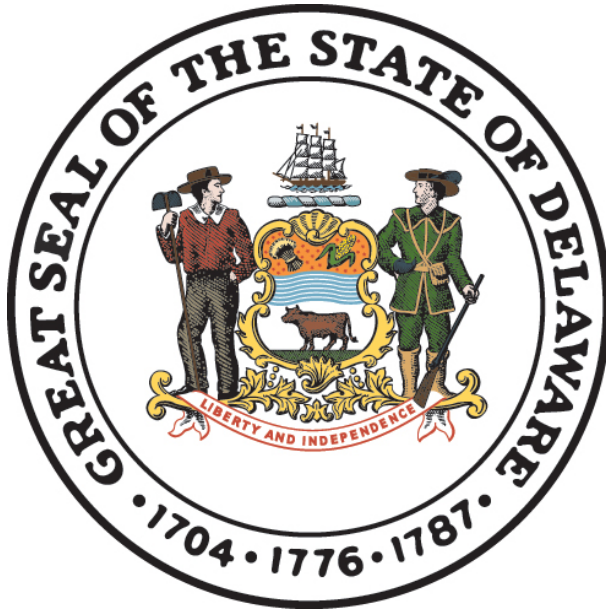
Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

**Notes:**

\* A civil filing is defined as one petition, or one single civil incident filed with the Family Court. In a divorce matter, although the petition may contain multiple ancillary matters to the divorce, it is counted as only one filing.

- A civil filing categorized as a "Case with Ancillary" is defined as a divorce with at least one ancillary, although the petition may contain multiple ancillary matters to the divorce, it is counted as only one filing. These were first counted in SFY2023. Ancillaries have always been a filing type; however, these were not included in prior years' filing counts.
- For example, if a divorce is filed with a property division ancillary and a temporary alimony ancillary, it is counted once under the "Divorce" category and once under the "Cases with Ancillary" category.
- Beginning in January 2024, some civil cases that originated in Kent and Sussex Counties were being handled by New Castle Judges as part of an effort to equitably distribute cases across all of Family Court's Judges.
- A criminal or delinquency filing is defined as one incident filed against one individual or defendant. A single criminal or juvenile delinquency filing may be comprised of a single or multiple charges relating to a single incident.
- During the course of reviewing the SFY2024 report, it was discovered that Juvenile Truancy, Juvenile Civil Citations, and Juvenile Violations were not consistently being counted when these statutes represent the first charge sequence. Family Court worked with the Judicial Information Center to correct these incongruities for the SFY2024 report and moving forward. As part of this correction, it was decided that Adult Truancy would be broken out from the 'All Other Charges' section to remain consistent with the Juvenile section
- Mediation is the process prior to adjudication in which a trained mediator attempts to assist the parties in reaching an agreement. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement or the mediation does not occur as scheduled, the matter is scheduled to be heard before a Commissioner or Judge or rescheduled back to a mediation calendar.
- Custody, support, visitation, determination of parentage, guardianship, imperiling family relations, and rule to show cause filings are scheduled for mediation unless bypass mediation rules apply as indicated in 13 Del. C. §711A and 13 Del. C. §728A; Family Court Procedures OCI-914 and OCI-902.
- Automatic Expungements/Pardons resulting in Automatic Juvenile Expungements are counted as filings in this report due to the amount of staff effort to process them. Although there is not a disposition from a Hearing Officer for Automatic Expungements, the directive letter from SBI is acted upon by our staff. Therefore, the resolution of these types of filings are added to the same month they are received in the Disposition sections of this report.
- Due to expungements, Delinquency and Criminal Filing/Disposition stats were taken from reports ran each month throughout the year. While this method will not catch all filing and dispositions that may have been expunged, this is the method that will allow us to capture the most. The volume of expungements will affect all data regarding juvenile criminal charges. Any decreases from prior FYs should not be assumed to be actual decreases as we don't have a definitive way to measure the impact of all the charges immediately expunged.
- FY 2020 through FY 2024 Stats were most likely impacted by the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic and changes from past or future years should consider this impact.

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.



COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
State of Delaware

2024 Annual Report Statistical Information

## COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Caseload Summary - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Civil Case Filings				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	4,611	5,897	1,286	27.9%
Kent County	1,484	1,875	391	26.3%
Sussex County	1,516	1,842	326	21.5%
<b>State</b>	<b>7,611</b>	<b>9,614</b>	<b>2,003</b>	<b>26.3%</b>

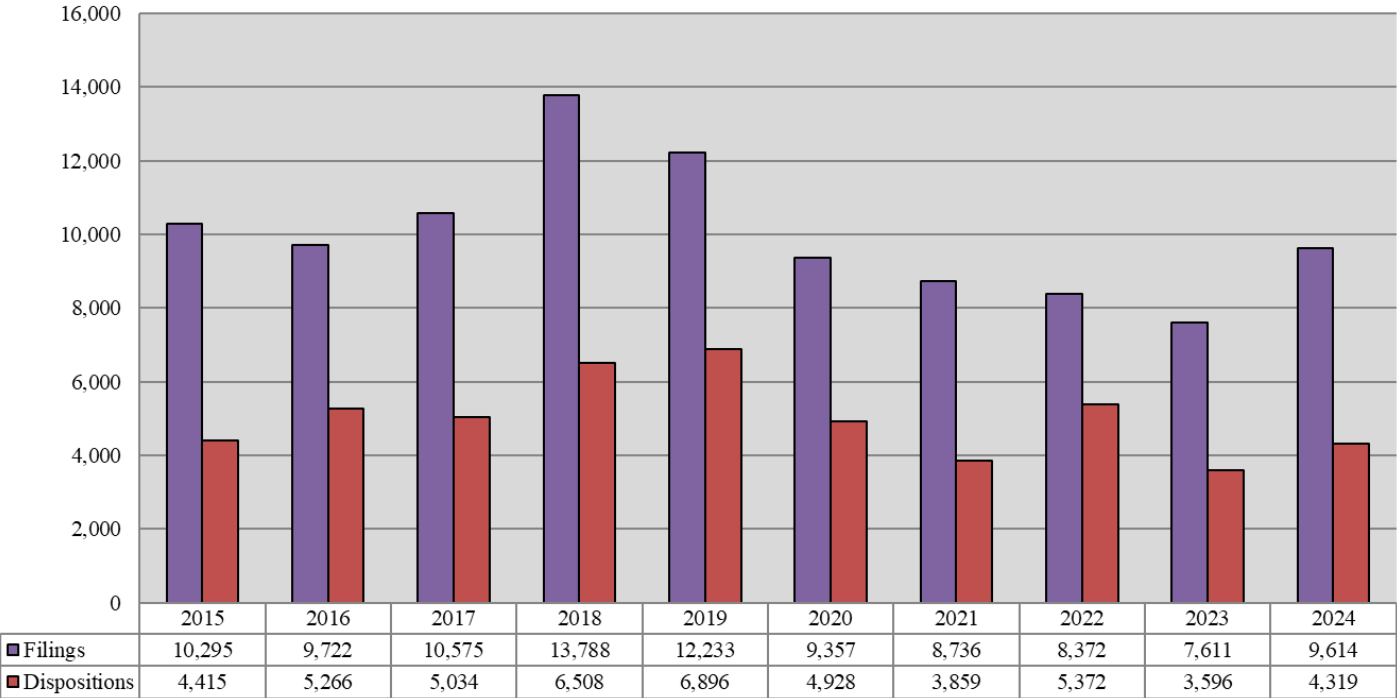
Caseload Summary - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Civil Case Dispositions				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	2,126	2,653	527	24.8%
Kent County	638	838	200	31.3%
Sussex County	832	828	-4	-0.5%
<b>State</b>	<b>3,596</b>	<b>4,319</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>20.1%</b>

Caseload Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2024- Civil Case Filings						
	Complaints		Civil Judgments, Name Changes & Appeals		Total	
New Castle County	3,915	66.4%	1,982	33.6%	5,897	100%
Kent County	1,265	67.5%	610	32.5%	1,875	100%
Sussex County	1,188	64.5%	654	35.5%	1,842	100%
<b>State</b>	<b>6,368</b>	<b>66.2%</b>	<b>3,246</b>	<b>33.8%</b>	<b>9,614</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Court Administrator, Court of Common Pleas; Administrative Office of the Courts.



Court of Common Pleas 10-Year Civil Caseload Trend



Fiscal Year

## COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

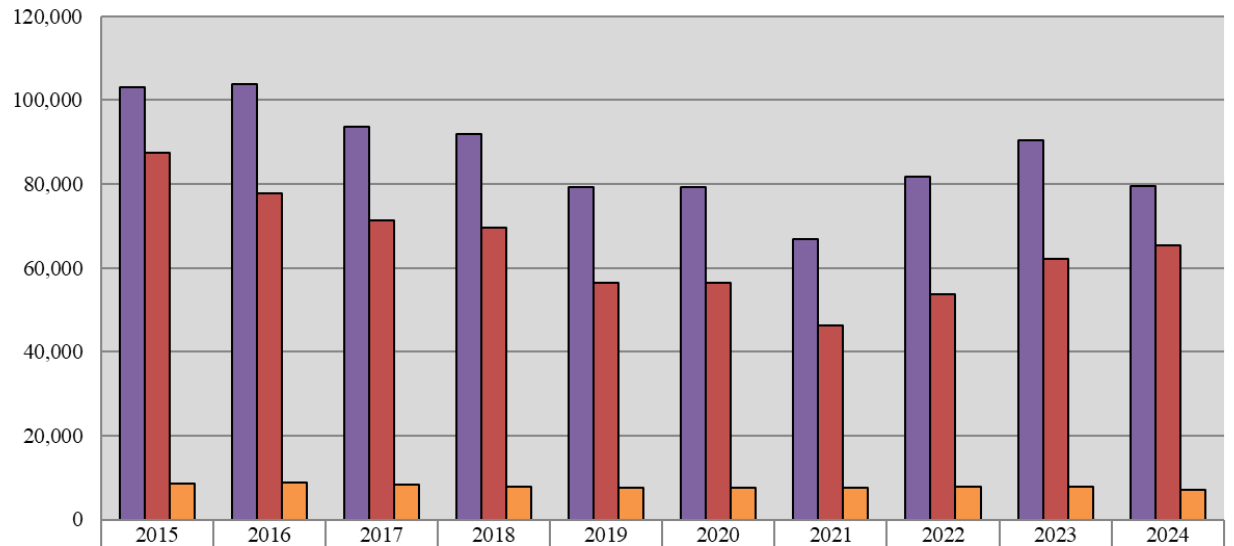
<b>Caseload Summary - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Criminal Misdemeanor Case Filings</b>				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	35,367	30,347	-5,020	-14.2%
Kent County	24,952	21,587	-3,365	-13.5%
Sussex County	30,091	27,641	-2,450	-8.1%
<b>State</b>	<b>90,410</b>	<b>79,575</b>	<b>-10,835</b>	<b>-12.0%</b>

<b>Caseload Summary - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Criminal Misdemeanor Case Dispositions</b>				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	25,909	26,125	216	0.8%
Kent County	13,907	17,632	3,725	26.8%
Sussex County	22,395	21,548	-847	-3.8%
<b>State</b>	<b>62,211</b>	<b>65,305</b>	<b>3,094</b>	<b>5.0%</b>

<b>Caseload Summary - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Criminal Preliminary Hearing Case Filings</b>				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	4,008	3,565	-443	-11.1%
Kent County	1,832	1,668	-164	-9.0%
Sussex County	2,017	1,843	-174	-8.6%
<b>State</b>	<b>7,857</b>	<b>7,076</b>	<b>-781</b>	<b>-9.9%</b>

Source: Court Administrator, Court of Common Pleas; Administrative Office of the Courts.

## Court of Common Pleas 10-Year Criminal Caseload Trend



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Misdemeanor Filings	103,176	103,825	93,630	92,008	79,162	79,162	66,737	81,806	90,410	79,575
Misdemeanor Dispositions	87,366	77,673	71,401	69,504	56,322	56,322	46,296	53,726	62,211	65,305
Preliminary Hearings	8,621	8,689	8,402	7,798	7,520	7,520	7,521	7,745	7,857	7,076

**Fiscal Year**

## COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

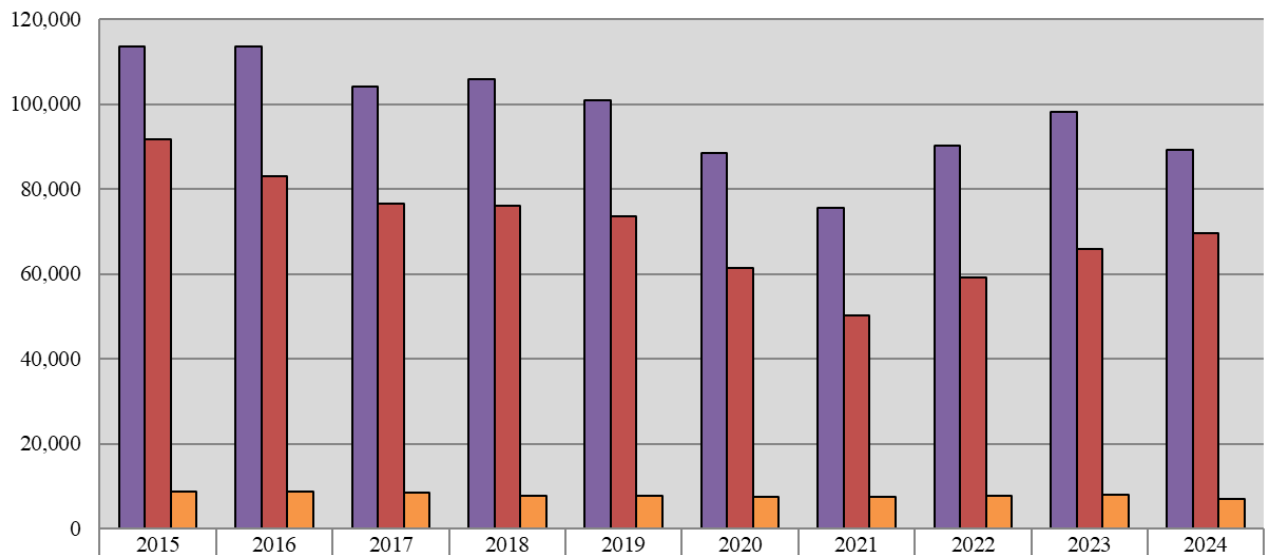
### Caseload Summary - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Criminal Misdemeanor and Civil Case Filings

	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	39,978	36,244	-3,734	-9.3%
Kent County	26,436	23,462	-2,974	-11.2%
Sussex County	31,607	29,483	-2,124	-6.7%
<b>State</b>	<b>98,021</b>	<b>89,189</b>	<b>-8,832</b>	<b>-9.0%</b>

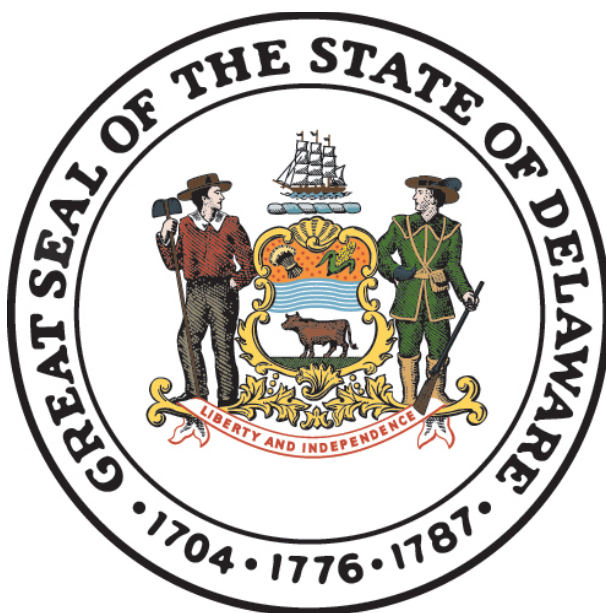
### Caseload Summary - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Criminal Misdemeanor and Civil Case Dispositions

	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County	28,035	28,778	743	2.7%
Kent County	14,545	18,470	3,925	27.0%
Sussex County	23,227	22,376	-851	-3.7%
<b>State</b>	<b>65,807</b>	<b>69,624</b>	<b>3,817</b>	<b>5.8%</b>

### Court of Common Pleas 10-Year Total Caseload Trend (Civil & Criminal)



Fiscal Year



# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT State of Delaware

## 2024 Annual Report Statistical Information



## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

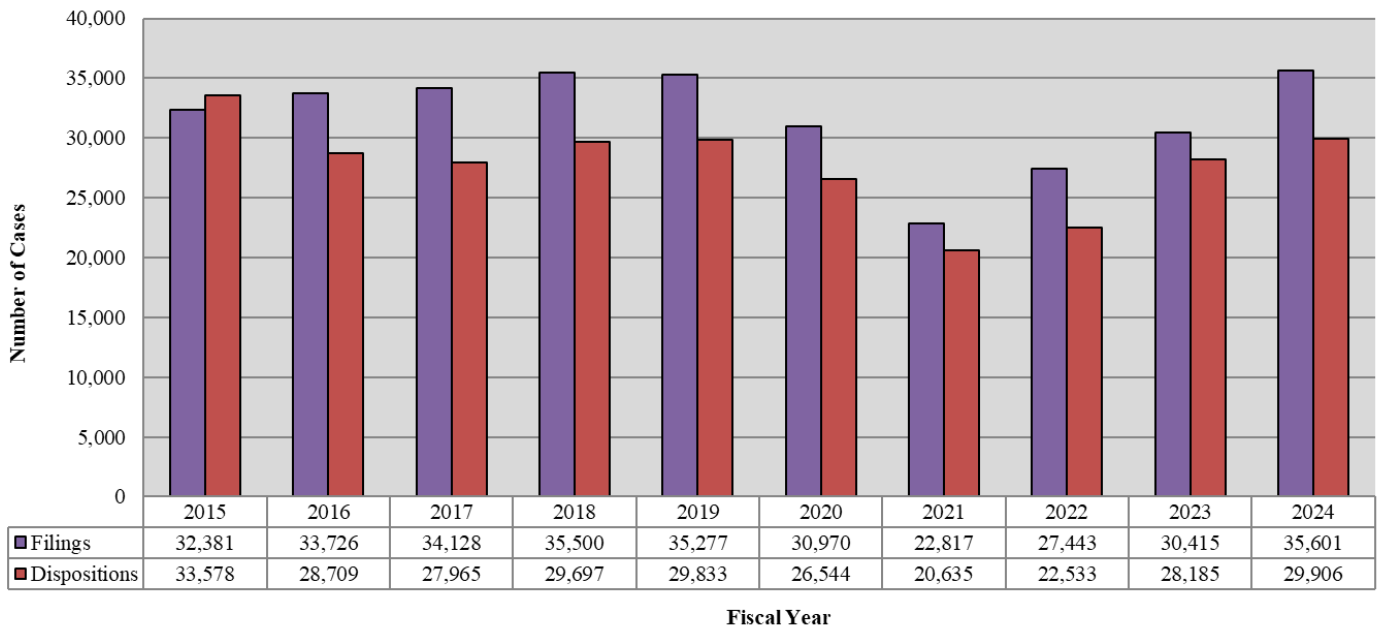
Caseload Summary - Fiscal Year 2024 - Civil Cases		
	Filings	Dispositions
New Castle County		
Court 9	390	1,461
Court 13	17,229	13,979
Kent County		
Court 16	11,155	9,209
Sussex County		
Court 17	6,827	5,257
<b>State</b>	<b>35,601</b>	<b>29,906</b>

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Civil Case Filings				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County				
Court 9	500	390	-110	-22.0%
Court 13	15,029	17,229	2,200	14.6%
Kent County				
Court 16	9,566	11,155	1,589	16.6%
Sussex County				
Court 17	5,320	6,827	1,507	28.3%
<b>State</b>	<b>30,415</b>	<b>35,601</b>	<b>5,186</b>	<b>17.1%</b>

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Civil Case Dispositions				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County				
Court 9	2,185	1,461	-724	-33.1%
Court 13	12,394	13,979	1,585	12.8%
Kent County				
Court 16	8,697	9,209	512	5.9%
Sussex County				
Court 17	4,909	5,257	348	7.1%
<b>State</b>	<b>28,185</b>	<b>29,906</b>	<b>1,721</b>	<b>6.1%</b>

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

### JP Court 10-Year Civil Caseload Trend

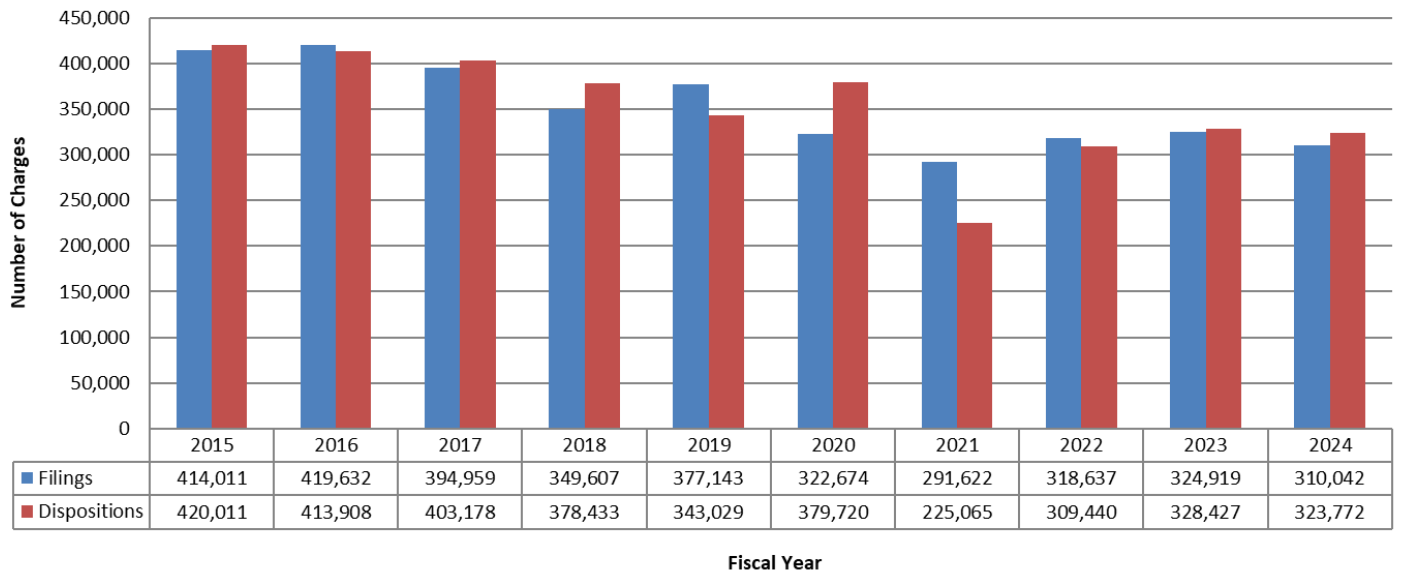


### Caseload Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2024 - Civil Case Filings

	Complaints		Landlord/Tenant		Total	
New Castle County						
Court 9	125	32.1%	265	67.9%	390	100%
Court 13	9,679	56.2%	7,550	43.8%	17,229	100%
Kent County						
Court 16	8,918	79.9%	2,237	20.1%	11,155	100%
Sussex County						
Court 17	5,133	75.2%	1,694	24.8%	6,827	100%
<b>State</b>	<b>23,855</b>	<b>67.0%</b>	<b>11,746</b>	<b>33.0%</b>	<b>35,601</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

### JP Court 10-Year Criminal and Traffic Caseload Trend\*



### JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

#### Caseload Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2024 - Criminal and Traffic Filings (Defendants)

	Title 7 - Fish/Game		Title 11 - Criminal		Title 21 - Traffic		Miscellaneous		Total	
New Castle County										
Court 9	13	0.5%	197	7.1%	2,488	90.1%	63	2.3%	2,761	100%
Court 11	58	0.2%	6,702	28.4%	15,499	65.7%	1,318	5.6%	23,577	100%
Court 20	12	0.1%	1,374	16.0%	5,418	63.0%	1,794	20.9%	8,598	100%
Kent County										
Court 6	7	0.2%	204	5.3%	3,372	88.3%	235	6.2%	3,818	100%
Court 7	45	0.3%	3,215	22.5%	9,926	69.3%	1,133	7.9%	14,319	100%
Court 8	0	0%	27	1.3%	1,920	94.9%	76	3.8%	2,023	100%
Sussex County										
Court 2	59	0.4%	8,814	58.2%	5,457	36.0%	822	5.4%	15,152	100%
Court 3	57	0.5%	2,367	21.3%	8,040	72.5%	630	5.7%	11,094	100%
Court 4	4	0.1%	206	4.0%	4,634	90.3%	288	5.6%	5,132	100%
Court 14	4	0.2%	75	3.2%	2,195	94.2%	57	2.4%	2,331	100%
TRS	0	0%	1	0.7%	1	0.7%	139	98.6%	141	100%
State w/o VAC	259	0.3%	23,182	26.1%	58,950	66.3%	6,555	7.4%	88,946	100%
VAC	2,006	2.2%	41	0.0%	86,573	94.9%	2,653	2.9%	91,273	100%
State with VAC	2,265	1.3%	23,223	12.9%	145,523	80.7%	9,208	5.1%	180,219	100%

VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center. TRS = Truancy Court Sussex.

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

Caseload Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2024 - Criminal and Traffic Filings (Charges)											
	Title 7 - Fish/Game		Title 11 - Criminal		Title 21 - Traffic		Miscellaneous		Total		
New Castle County											
Court 9	20	0.4%	280	5.6%	4,570	92.1%	93	1.9%	4,963	100%	
Court 11	78	0.1%	15,653	27.2%	38,647	67.2%	3,147	5.5%	57,525	100%	
Court 20	15	0.1%	2,239	12.9%	12,475	71.8%	2,638	15.2%	17,367	100%	
Kent County											
Court 6	11	0.2%	275	3.9%	6,420	91.1%	345	4.9%	7,051	100%	
Court 7	65	0.2%	7,546	22.8%	22,778	68.8%	2,718	8.2%	33,107	100%	
Court 8	0	0%	39	1.0%	3,821	96.7%	90	2.3%	3,950	100%	
Sussex County											
Court 2	153	0.4%	19,967	53.9%	14,019	37.8%	2,935	7.9%	37,074	100%	
Court 3	128	0.4%	6,221	21.4%	20,826	71.7%	1,879	6.5%	29,054	100%	
Court 4	9	0.1%	345	3.1%	10,127	91.4%	598	5.4%	11,079	100%	
Court 14	8	0.1%	94	1.5%	5,987	96.7%	100	1.6%	6,189	100%	
TRS	0	0%	1	0.7%	2	1.3%	150	98.0%	153	100%	
State w/o VAC	487	0.2%	52,660	25.4%	139,672	67.3%	14,693	7.1%	207,512	100%	
VAC	2,253	2.2%	79	0.1%	96,131	93.8%	4,067	4.0%	102,530	100%	
State with VAC	2,740	0.9%	52,739	17.0%	235,803	76.1%	18,760	6.1%	310,042	100%	

VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center. TRS = Truancy Court Sussex.

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Criminal and Traffic Filings (Defendants)				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County				
Court 9	2,230	2,761	531	23.8%
Court 10	0	0	0	0%
Court 11	22,948	23,577	629	2.7%
Court 20	12,328	8,598	-3,730	-30.3%
Kent County				
Court 6	4,031	3,818	-213	-5.3%
Court 7	14,486	14,319	-167	-1.2%
Court 8	2,799	2,023	-776	-27.7%
Sussex County				
Court 2	15,900	15,152	-748	-4.7%
Court 3	12,310	11,094	-1,216	-9.9%
Court 4	5,149	5,132	-17	-0.3%
Court 14	2,430	2,331	-99	-4.1%
TRS	130	141	11	8.5%
State Without VAC	94,741	88,946	-5,795	-6.1%
VAC	90,473	91,273	800	0.9%
<b>State with VAC</b>	<b>185,214</b>	<b>180,219</b>	<b>-4,995</b>	<b>-2.7%</b>

VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center. TRS = Truancy Court Sussex.

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.



## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Criminal and Traffic Filings (Charges)				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
New Castle County				
Court 9	4,052	4,963	911	22.5%
Court 10	0	0	0	0%
Court 11	55,069	57,525	2,456	4.5%
Court 20	26,356	17,367	-8,989	-34.1%
Kent County				
Court 6	7,815	7,051	-764	-9.8%
Court 7	34,425	33,107	-1,318	-3.8%
Court 8	5,012	3,950	-1,062	-21.2%
Sussex County				
Court 2	39,622	37,074	-2,548	-6.4%
Court 3	33,043	29,054	-3,989	-12.1%
Court 4	11,086	11,079	-7	-0.1%
Court 14	6,605	6,189	-416	-6.3%
TRS	142	153	11	7.7%
State Without VAC	223,227	207,512	-15,715	-7.0%
VAC	101,692	102,530	838	0.8%
<b>State with VAC</b>	<b>324,919</b>	<b>310,042</b>	<b>-14,877</b>	<b>-4.6%</b>

VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center. TRS = Truancy Court Sussex.

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

Court Rankings - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Cases Filed* (Charges)				
2023 Rank w/o VAC	2024 Rank w/o VAC		2024 Total Filings	2024 % of Total w/o VAC
1	1	Court 11	57,525	23.7%
2	2	Court 2	37,074	15.2%
3	3	Court 7	33,107	13.6%
4	4	Court 3	29,054	12.0%
5	5	Court 20	17,367	7.1%
6	6	Court 13	17,229	7.1%
8	7	Court 16	11,155	4.6%
7	8	Court 4	11,079	4.6%
9	9	Court 6	7,051	2.9%
11	10	Court 17	6,827	2.8%
10	11	Court 14	6,189	2.5%
13	12	Court 9	5,353	2.2%
12	13	Court 8	3,950	1.6%
14	14	TRS	153	0.1%
2024 State w/o VAC			243,113	100%
2024 VAC			102,530	
2024 State w/ VAC			345,643	

\*Includes civil, criminal, and traffic filings.

VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center. TRS = Truancy Court Sussex.

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

Court Rankings - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Cases Filed* (Defendants)				
2023 Rank w/o VAC	2024 Rank w/o VAC		2024 Total Filings	2024 % of Total w/o VAC
1	1	Court 11	23,577	18.9%
3	2	Court 13	17,229	13.8%
2	3	Court 2	15,152	12.2%
4	4	Court 7	14,319	11.5%
7	5	Court 16	11,155	9.0%
6	6	Court 3	11,094	8.9%
5	7	Court 20	8,598	6.9%
8	8	Court 17	6,827	5.5%
9	9	Court 4	5,132	4.1%
10	10	Court 6	3,818	3.1%
12	11	Court 9	3,151	2.5%
13	12	Court 14	2,331	1.9%
11	13	Court 8	2,023	1.6%
14	14	TRS	141	0.2%
2024 State w/o VAC			124,547	100%
2024 VAC			91,273	
2024 State w/ VAC			215,820	

\*Includes civil, criminal, and traffic filings.

VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center. TRS = Truancy Court Sussex.

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Cases Filed (Charges)				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
Criminal & Traffic	324,919	310,042	-14,877	-4.6%
Civil	30,415	35,601	5,186	17.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>355,334</b>	<b>345,643</b>	<b>-9,691</b>	<b>-2.7%</b>

Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Cases Disposed (Charges)				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
Criminal & Traffic	328,427	323,772	-4,655	-1.4%
Civil	28,185	29,906	1,721	6.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>356,612</b>	<b>353,678</b>	<b>-2,934</b>	<b>-0.8%</b>

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

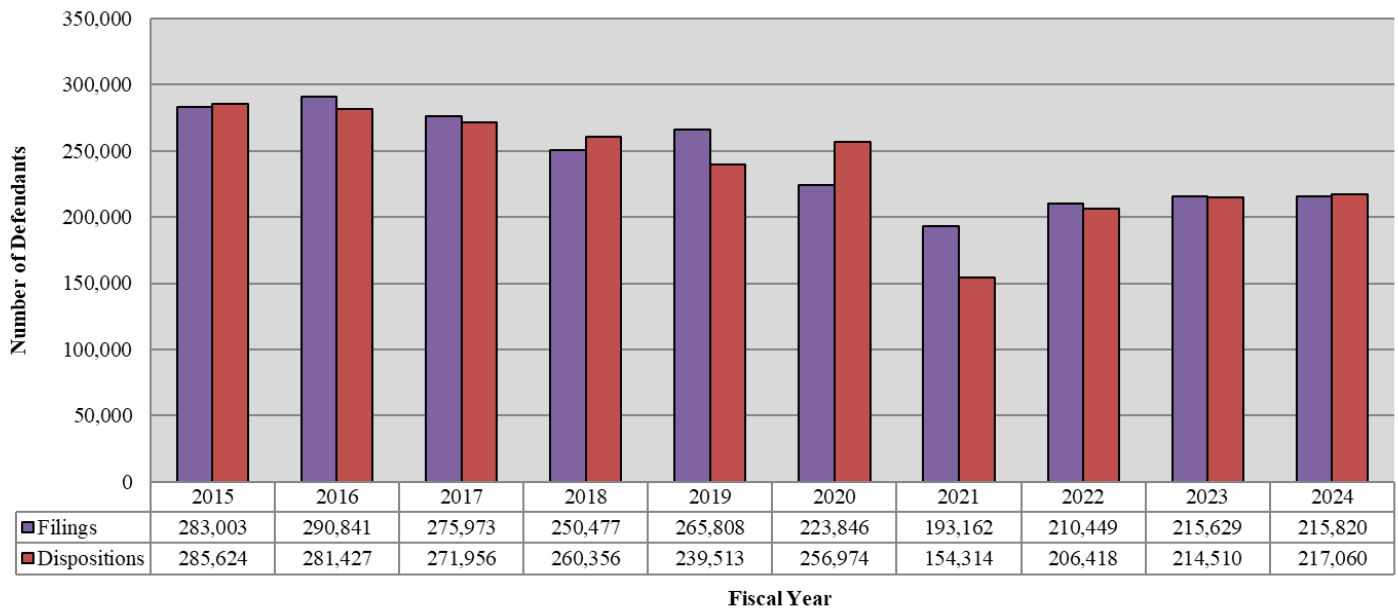
### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Case Filings (Defendants)

	2023	2024	Change	% Change
Criminal & Traffic	185,214	180,219	-4,995	-2.7%
Civil	30,415	35,601	5,186	17.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>215,629</b>	<b>215,820</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>0.1%</b>

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Cases Dispositions

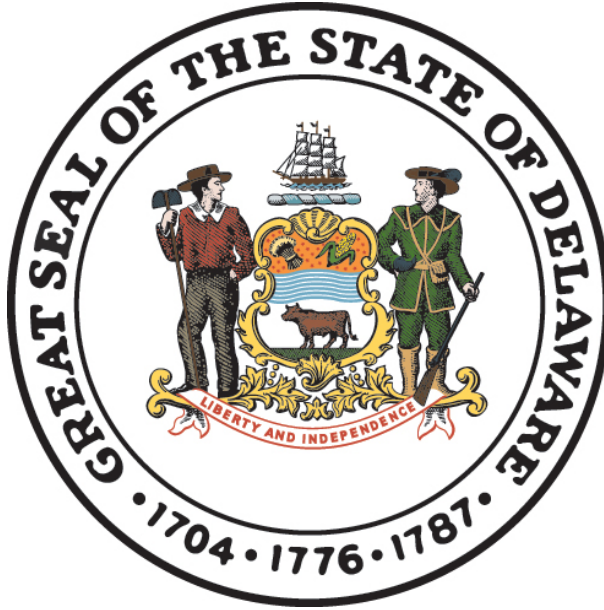
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
Criminal & Traffic	186,325	187,154	829	0.4%
Civil	28,185	29,906	1,721	6.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>214,510</b>	<b>217,060</b>	<b>2,550</b>	<b>1.2%</b>

### JP Court 10-Year Total Caseload Trend\* (Civil, Criminal & Traffic)



\*Criminal filings and disposition information is by defendant.

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.



# ALDERMAN'S COURTS

## State of Delaware

### 2024 Annual Report Statistical Information



**ALDERMAN'S COURTS\***

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Filings</b>				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
<b>New Castle County</b>				
Newark	10,791	6,589	-4,202	-38.9%
Newport	3,172	2,541	-631	-19.9%
<b>Sussex County</b>				
Bethany Beach	19	14	-5	-26.3%
Dewey Beach	747	1,130	383	51.3%
Laurel	2,724	3,430	706	25.9%
Rehoboth Beach	1,358	1,750	392	28.9%
<b>State</b>	<b>18,811</b>	<b>15,454</b>	<b>-3,357</b>	<b>-17.8%</b>

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2023-2024 - Total Dispositions</b>				
	2023	2024	Change	% Change
<b>New Castle County</b>				
Newark	1,934	5,075	3,141	162.4%
Newport	1,972	1,987	15	0.8%
<b>Sussex County</b>				
Bethany Beach	35	9	-26	-74.3%
Dewey Beach	1,192	1,729	537	45.1%
Laurel	2,623	2,988	365	13.9%
Rehoboth Beach	1,464	1,588	124	8.5%
<b>State</b>	<b>9,220</b>	<b>13,376</b>	<b>4,156</b>	<b>45.1%</b>

Notes: 1) The unit of count for criminal and traffic cases is the charge. For example, a defendant with three charges disposed of is counted as three dispositions. 2) Newport and Rehoboth Beach did not have criminal filings or dispositions. Laurel did not have Civil filings or dispositions. Bethany Beach did not have Traffic filings or dispositions.

\*Alderman's Courts are not part of the Delaware court system. They are independent entities within their respective Municipalities. However, cases may be transferred or appealed to a state court.

Source: Alderman's Courts; Administrative Office of the Courts.