

2014 Annual Report of Statistics  
Superior Court of Pennsylvania  
March 1, 2015





## Superior Court of Pennsylvania 2014



### Judges of the Superior Court

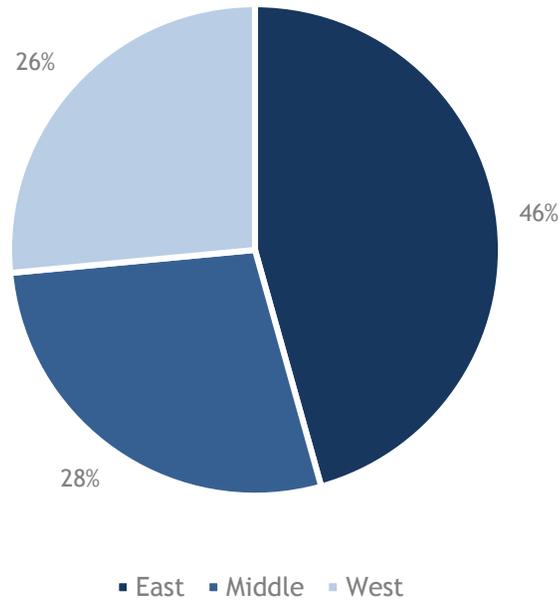
President Judge Susan Peikes Gantman  
President Judge Emeritus Kate Ford Elliott  
President Judge Emeritus John T. Bender  
Judge Mary Jane Bowes  
Judge Jack A. Panella  
Judge Christine L. Donohue  
Judge Jacqueline O. Shogan  
Judge Cheryl Lynn Allen  
Judge Anne E. Lazarus  
Judge Sallie Updyke Mundy  
Judge Judith Ference Olson  
Judge Paula Francisco Ott  
Judge David N. Wecht  
Judge Victor P. Stabile  
Judge Patricia H. Jenkins  
Judge John L. Musmanno  
Judge James J. Fitzgerald, III  
Judge William H. Platt  
Judge Eugene B. Strassburger, III

### Department Heads

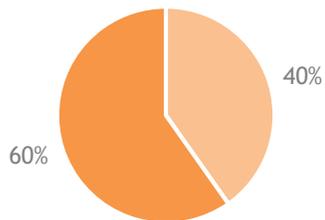
David A. Szewczak, Esquire  
Executive Administrator  
Joseph D. Seletyn, Esquire  
Prothonotary  
Philip Yoon, Esquire  
Chief Staff Attorney  
Robert M. Levine, Esquire  
Reporter  
Peter F. Johnson, Esquire  
Legal Systems Coordinator



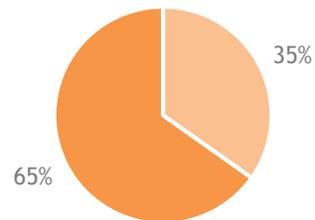
## Appeals by District in 2014



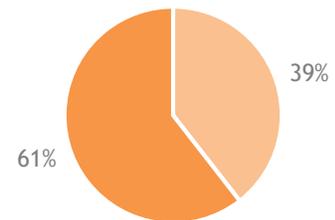
### Western District



### Middle District



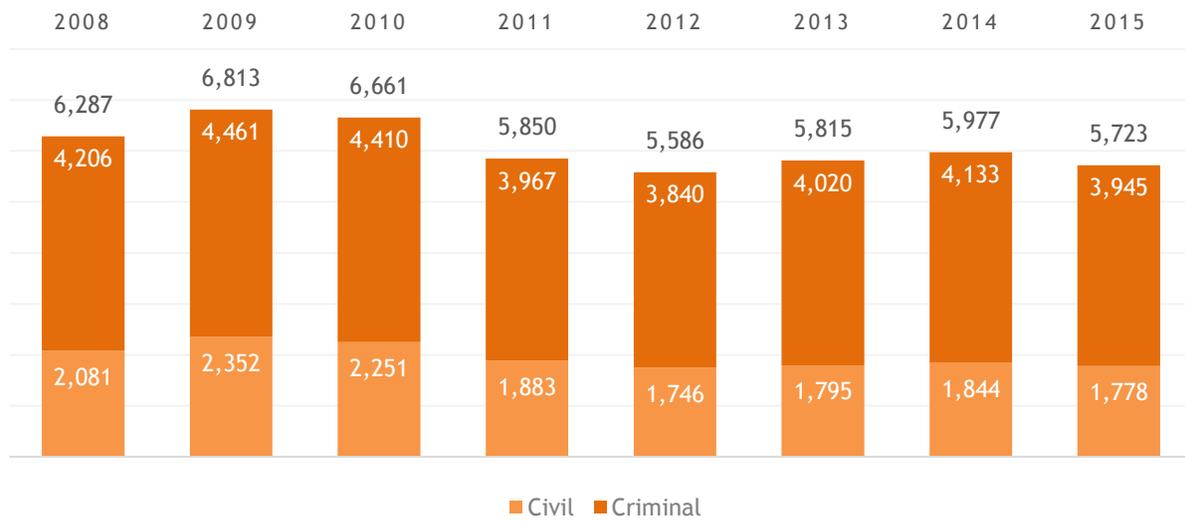
### Eastern District



	Civil	Criminal	Total
Eastern	1,426	2,186	3,612
Middle	767	1,436	2,203
Western	843	1,253	2,096
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,036</b>	<b>4,875</b>	<b>7,911</b>



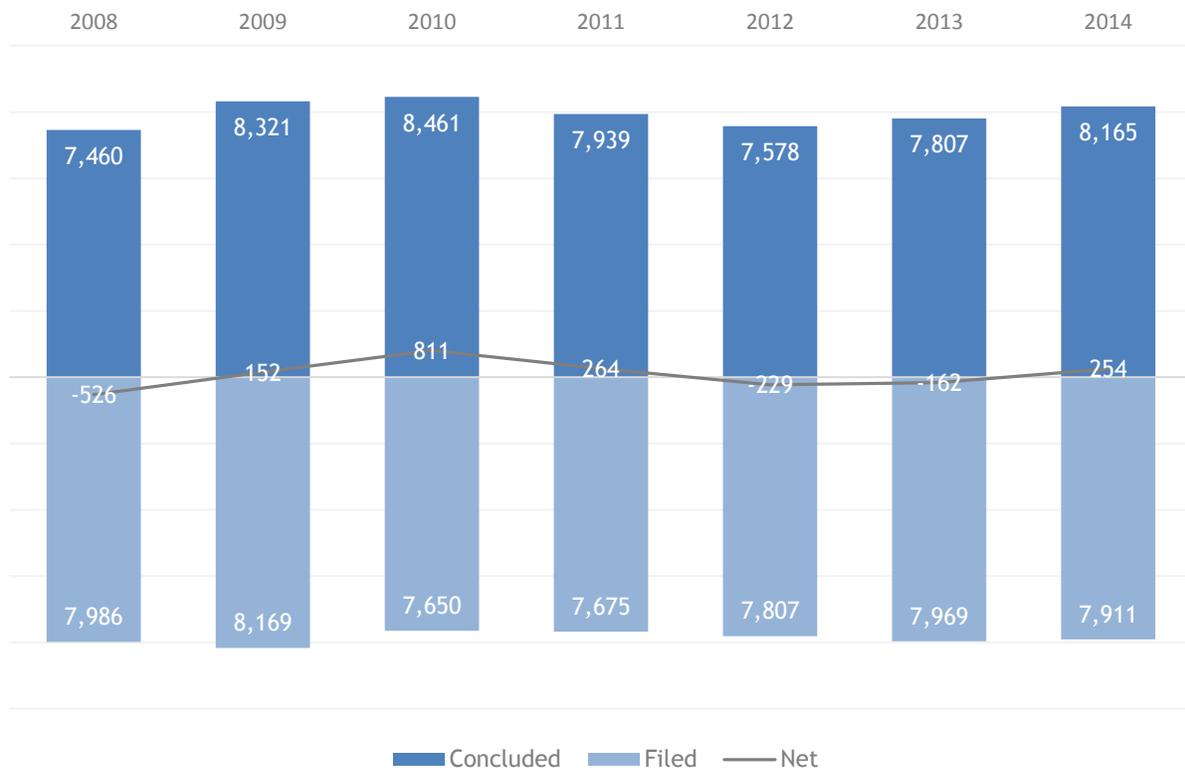
## Appeals Pending as of January 1



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Civil Appeals Pending 1/1	2,081	2,352	2,251	1,883	1,746	1,795	1,844
Criminal Appeals Pending 1/1	4,206	4,461	4,410	3,967	3,840	4,020	4,133
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,287</b>	<b>6,813</b>	<b>6,661</b>	<b>5,850</b>	<b>5,586</b>	<b>5,815</b>	<b>5,977</b>
Civil Appeals Pending 12/31	2,352	2,251	1,883	1,746	1,795	1,844	1,778
Criminal Appeals Pending 12/31	4,461	4,410	3,967	3,840	4,020	4,133	3,945
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,813</b>	<b>6,661</b>	<b>5,850</b>	<b>5,586</b>	<b>5,815</b>	<b>5,977</b>	<b>5,723</b>



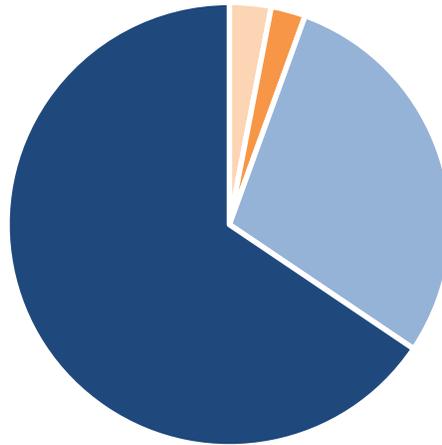
## Appeals Filed and Concluded



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Civil Appeals Filed	3,248	3,302	3,100	3,133	3,063	3,118	3,036
Criminal Appeals Filed	4,738	4,867	4,550	4,542	4,744	4,851	4,875
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,986</b>	<b>8,169</b>	<b>7,650</b>	<b>7,675</b>	<b>7,807</b>	<b>7,969</b>	<b>7,911</b>
Civil Appeals Concluded	2,977	3,403	3,468	3,270	3,014	3,069	3,102
Criminal Appeals Concluded	4,483	4,918	4,993	4,669	4,564	4,738	5,063
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,460</b>	<b>8,321</b>	<b>8,461</b>	<b>7,939</b>	<b>7,578</b>	<b>7,807</b>	<b>8,165</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>-526</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>-229</b>	<b>-162</b>	<b>254</b>

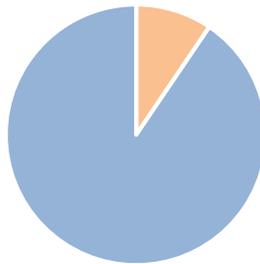


### Publication in 2014



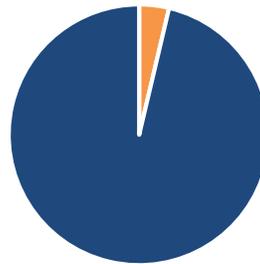
- Civil Published - 3%
- Criminal Published - 2%
- Civil Unpublished - 29%
- Criminal Unpublished - 66%

### Civil Publication in 2014



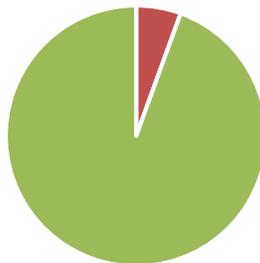
- Published - 9%
- Unpublished - 91%

### Criminal Publication in 2014



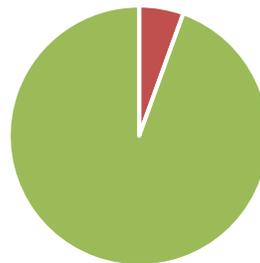
- Published - 4%
- Unpublished - 96%

### Total Publication in 2014



- Total Published - 6%
- Total Unpublished - 94%

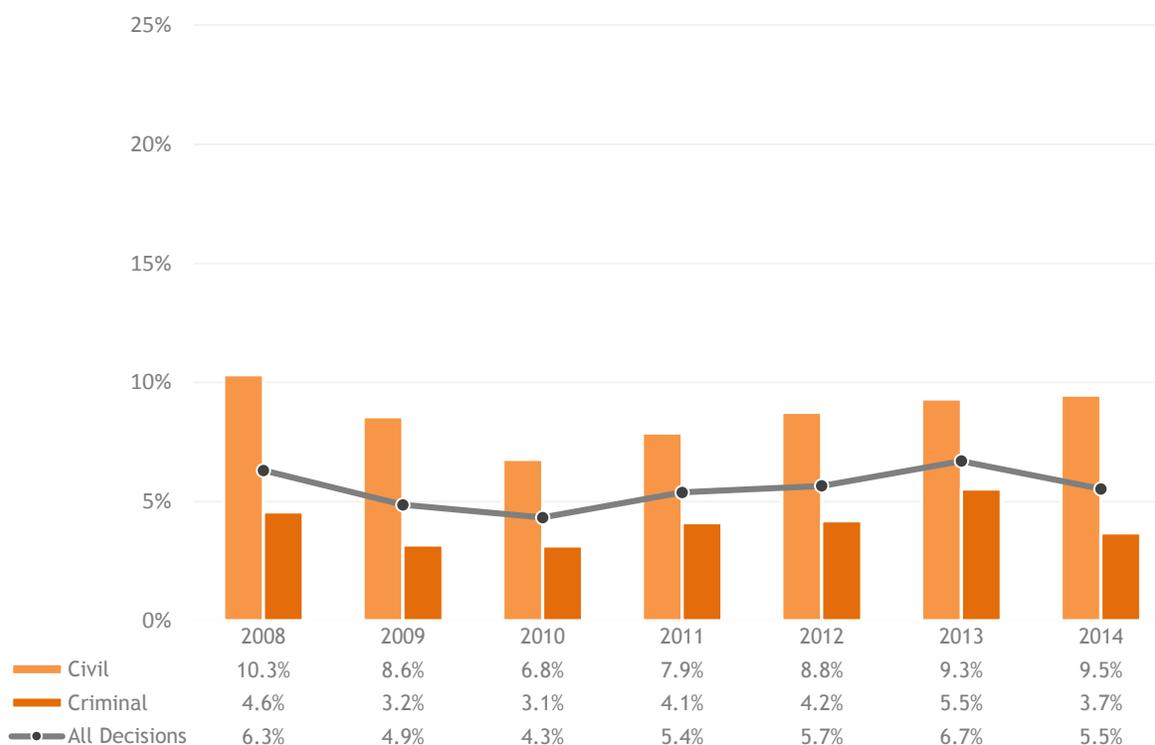
### Average Since 2008



- Average Published - 6%
- Average Unpublished - 94%



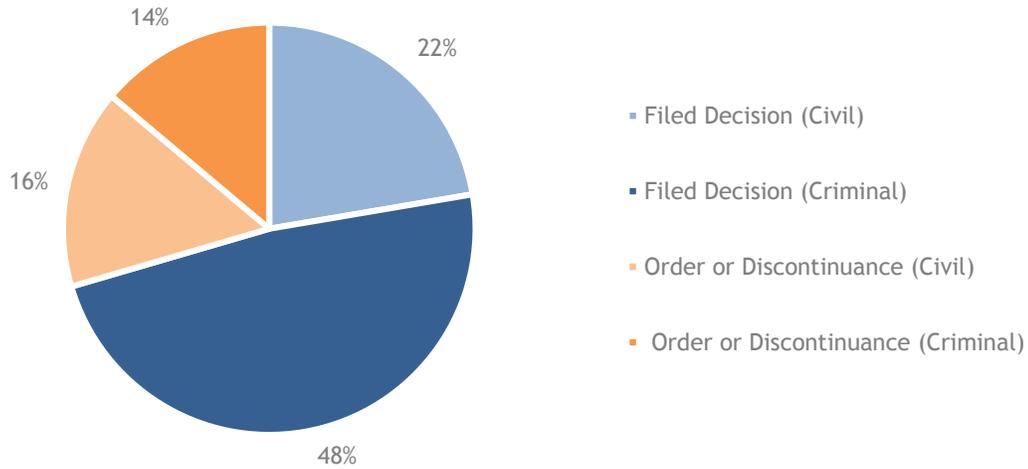
## Share of Published Decisions among Filed Decisions



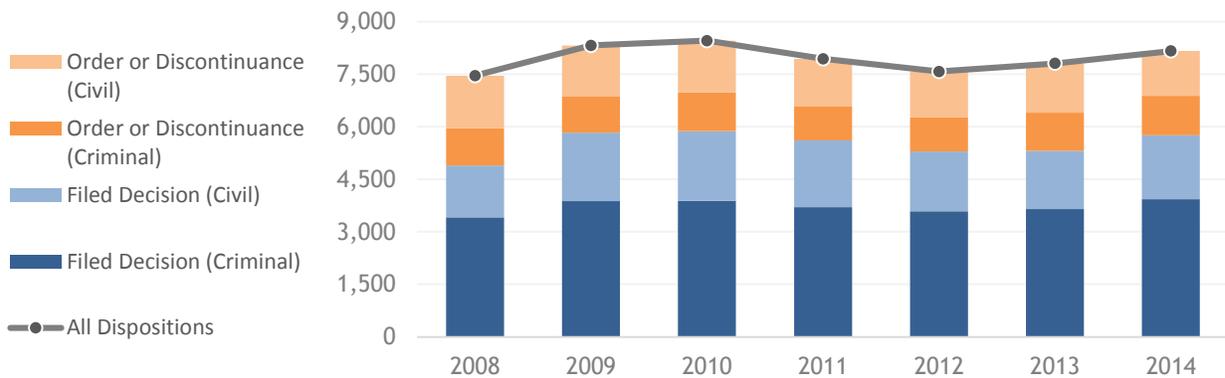
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Civil Published	147	144	122	137	138	141	159
Criminal Published	150	118	117	141	139	185	132
<b>Total Published</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>291</b>
Civil Unpublished	1,277	1,537	1,678	1,600	1,439	1,374	1,520
Criminal Unpublished	3,133	3,585	3,600	3,279	3,173	3,160	3,446
<b>Total Unpublished</b>	<b>4,410</b>	<b>5,122</b>	<b>5,278</b>	<b>4,879</b>	<b>4,612</b>	<b>4,534</b>	<b>4,966</b>
<b>Total Filed</b>	<b>4,707</b>	<b>5,384</b>	<b>5,517</b>	<b>5,157</b>	<b>4,889</b>	<b>4,860</b>	<b>5,257</b>



### Dispositions by Type in 2014



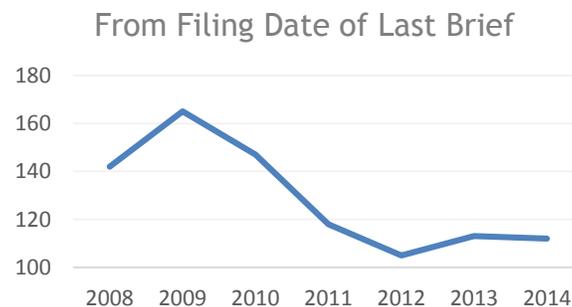
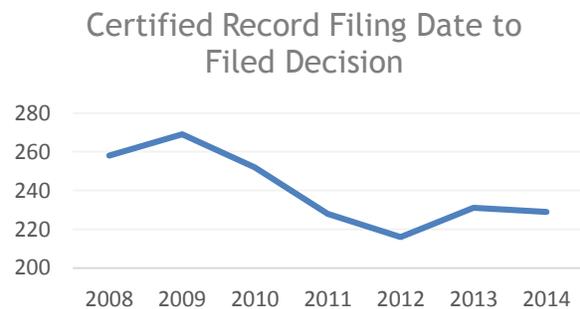
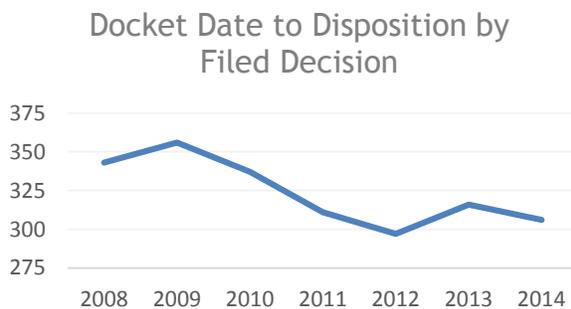
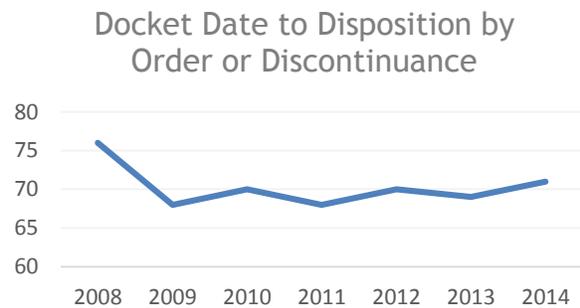
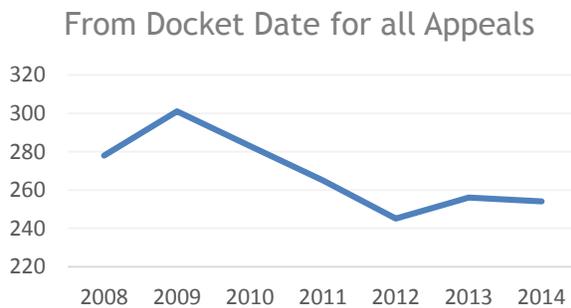
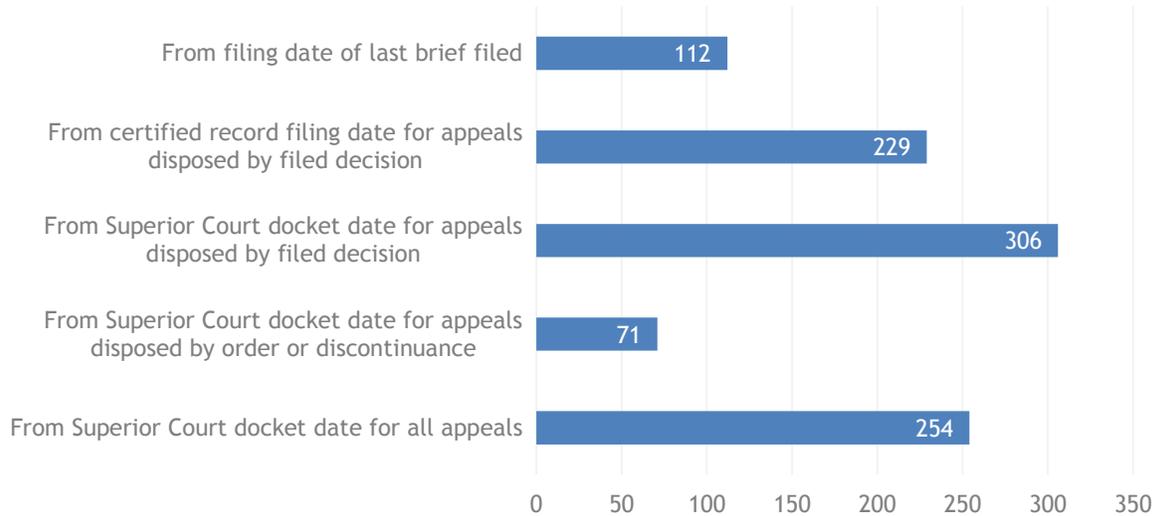
### Number of Dispositions by Year



Filed Decision (Civil)	1,477	1,956	1,992	1,908	1,707	1,667	1,823
Filed Decision (Criminal)	3,413	3,877	3,884	3,701	3,584	3,648	3,931
<b>Filed Decision Total</b>	<b>4,890</b>	<b>5,833</b>	<b>5,876</b>	<b>5,609</b>	<b>5,291</b>	<b>5,315</b>	<b>5,754</b>
Order or Discontinuance (Civil)	1,500	1,447	1,476	1,362	1,307	1,402	1,279
Order or Discontinuance (Crim.)	1,070	1,041	1,109	968	980	1,090	1,132
<b>Order or Discontinuance Total</b>	<b>2,570</b>	<b>2,488</b>	<b>2,585</b>	<b>2,330</b>	<b>2,287</b>	<b>2,492</b>	<b>2,411</b>
<b>All Dispositions</b>	<b>7,460</b>	<b>8,321</b>	<b>8,461</b>	<b>7,939</b>	<b>7,578</b>	<b>7,807</b>	<b>8,165</b>

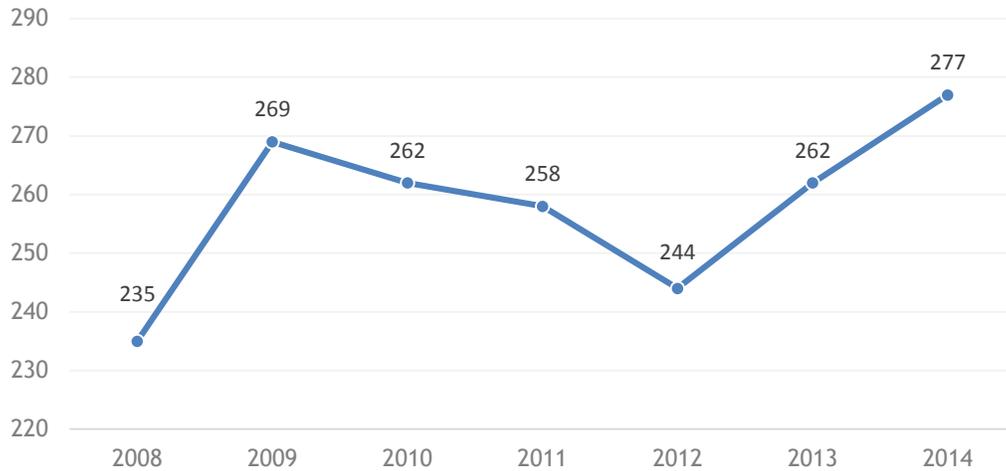


## Median Number of Days to Disposition for Appeals Concluded in 2014





### Filed Decisions per Judge per Year



### Number of Appeals by County

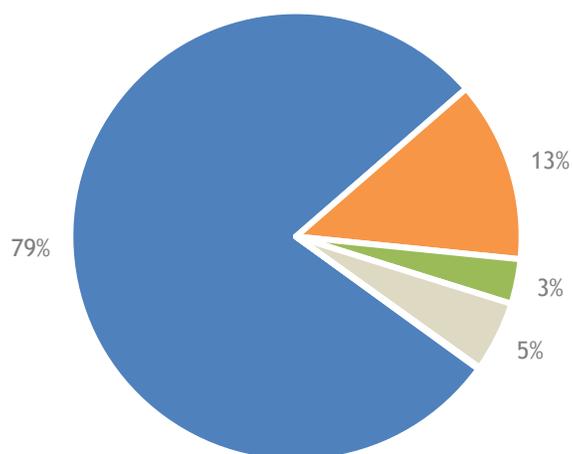
Adams	46	Clinton	28	Lackawanna	115	Pike	49
Allegheny	831	Columbia	20	Lancaster	210	Potter	22
Armstrong	20	Crawford	40	Lawrence	52	Schuylkill	80
Beaver	44	Cumberland	93	Lebanon	98	Snyder	15
Bedford	28	Dauphin	234	Lehigh	232	Somerset	20
Berks	254	Delaware	382	Luzerne	218	Sullivan	2
Blair	62	Elk	7	Lycoming	75	Susquehanna	23
Bradford	30	Erie	257	McKean	14	Tioga	16
Bucks	211	Fayette	129	Mercer	36	Union	20
Butler	69	Forest	3	Mifflin	10	Venango	33
Cambria	50	Franklin	98	Monroe	135	Warren	24
Cameron	1	Fulton	8	Montgomery	388	Washington	91
Carbon	23	Greene	33	Montour	12	Wayne	31
Centre	100	Huntingdon	40	Northampton	132	Westmoreland	103
Chester	231	Indiana	20	Northumberland	39	Wyoming	6
Clarion	26	Jefferson	42	Perry	31	York	278
Clearfield	39	Juniata	4	Philadelphia	1,798	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,911</b>

The total number of appeals filed in the Superior Court last year was 7,911. The most recent population estimate for Pennsylvania is 12,773,801 residents.<sup>1</sup> All counties together averaged one appeal to the Superior Court for every 2,280 residents.

<sup>1</sup> See Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2013, U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, December 2013, <http://factfinder.census.gov/> (providing estimates of Pennsylvania county populations, as of July 1, 2013).



## Superior Court Treatment in Filed Decisions in 2014

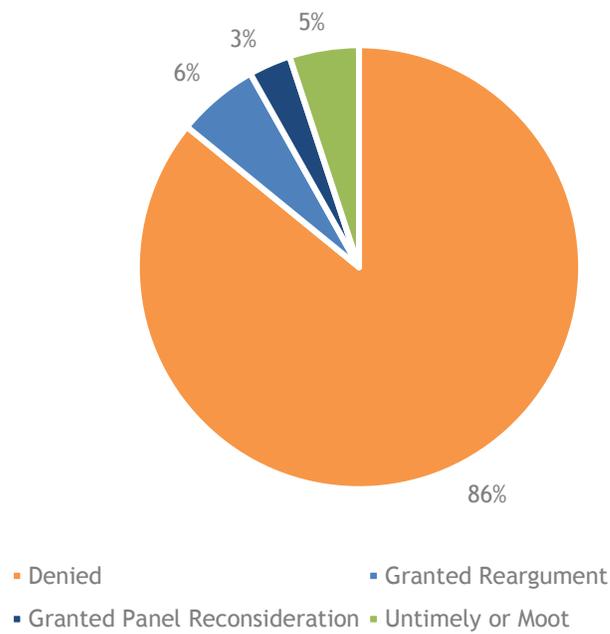


■ Affirm   
 ■ Reverse   
 ■ Affirm in Part Reverse in Part   
 ■ Quash Dismiss or Transfer

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Affirmed (Published)	181	156	136	183	180	254	175
Affirmed (Unpublished)	3,704	4,402	4,507	4,259	4,030	3,978	4,348
<b>Affirm Total</b>	<b>3,885</b>	<b>4,558</b>	<b>4,643</b>	<b>4,442</b>	<b>4,210</b>	<b>4,232</b>	<b>4,523</b>
Reversed (Published)	92	120	98	98	102	103	119
Reversed (Unpublished)	571	673	646	629	523	521	629
<b>Reverse Total</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>793</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>748</b>
Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part (Published)	20	22	22	26	23	32	26
Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part (Unpublished)	127	204	198	189	160	162	159
<b>Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part Total</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>185</b>
Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred (Published)	9	4	4	12	4	9	81
Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred (Unpublished)	164	238	257	212	264	249	210
<b>Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred Total</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>291</b>
Other (Published)	1	0	0	0	2	0	0
Other (Unpublished)	21	14	8	1	3	7	7
<b>Other Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>



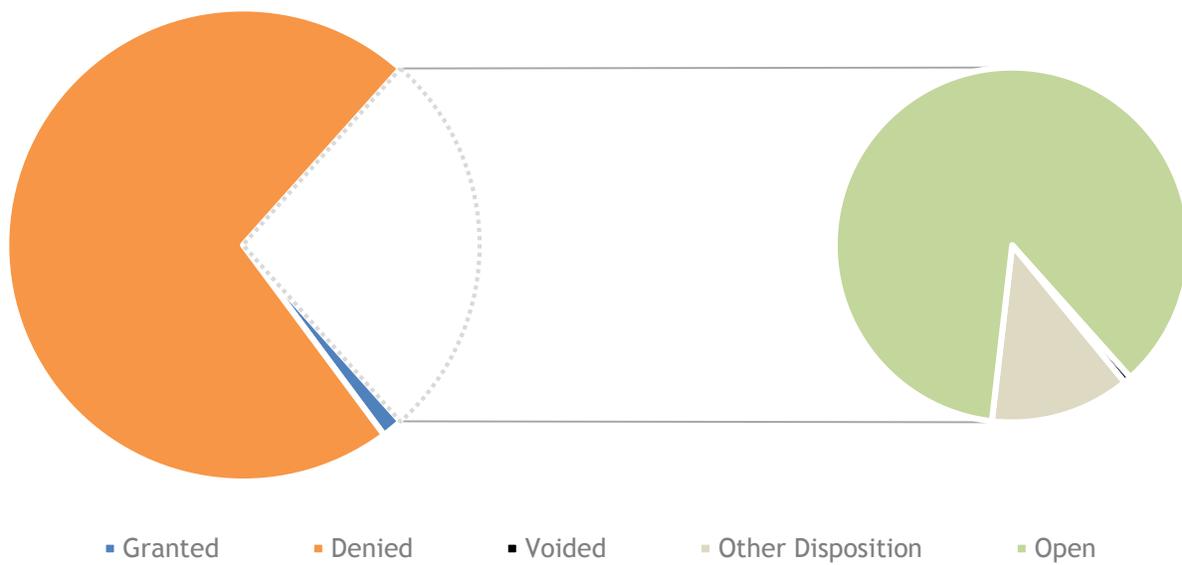
### Applications for Reconsideration or Reargument in 2014



Treatment	Number	Percent
Denied	475	86%
Granted Reargument	33	6%
Granted Panel Reconsideration	17	3%
Untimely or Moot	28	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>100%</b>



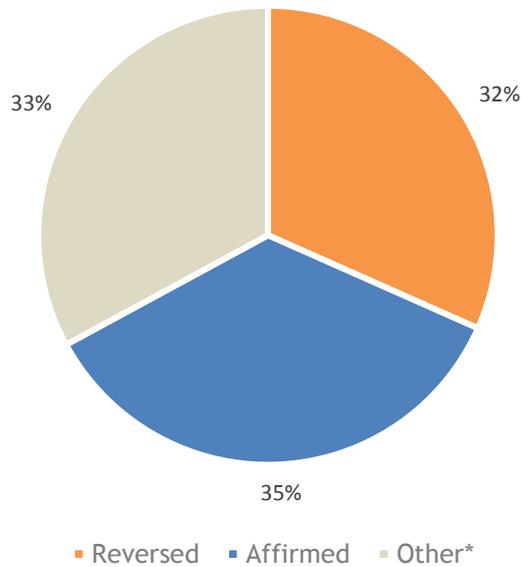
## Supreme Court Treatment of Petitions for Allowance of Appeal in 2014



Petitions for Allowance of Appeal	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	1,784	2,078	2,097	2,078	1,947	2,026	1,923
Granted	91	51	48	53	42	59	39
Denied	1,729	1,727	1,932	2,136	1,741	1,999	1,954
Voided	8	5	9	6	5	6	5
Other Disposition	24	55	89	103	55	54	93
Open	823	1,003	1,187	908	1,013	892	632



### Supreme Court Disposition of Allowed Appeals in 2014

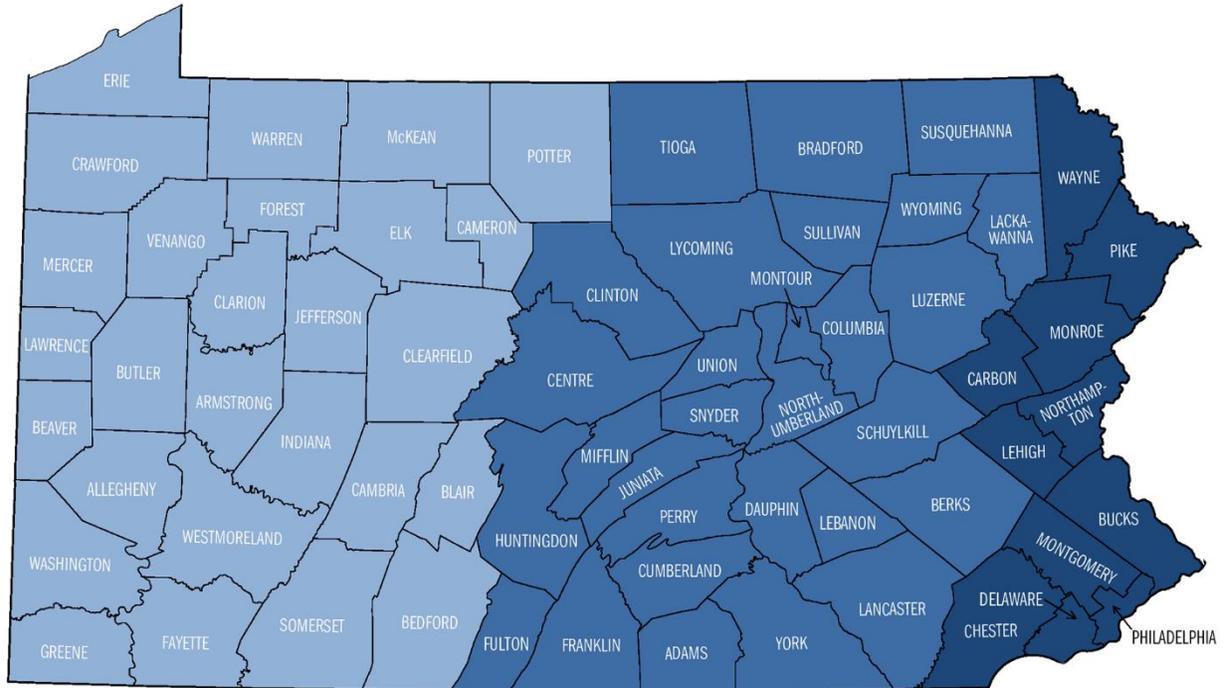


Disposition	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Reversed	10	28	20	21	23	28	25
Affirmed	11	35	18	18	27	26	28
Other*	24	14	10	25	25	22	26
Total	45	77	48	64	75	76	79

\*Includes affirmed/reversed, dismissed, improvidently granted, vacated and withdrawn.



## Composition of Districts



### Western District ●

Pittsburgh

Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Fayette, Forest, Greene, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Potter, Somerset, Venango, Warren, Washington, Westmoreland

### Middle District ●

Harrisburg

Adams, Berks, Bradford, Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Schuylkill, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, York

### Eastern District ●

Philadelphia

Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, Pike, Wayne

