

2017 Annual Report of Statistics Superior Court of Pennsylvania

May 25, 2018





Superior Court of Pennsylvania 2017



Judges of the Superior Court

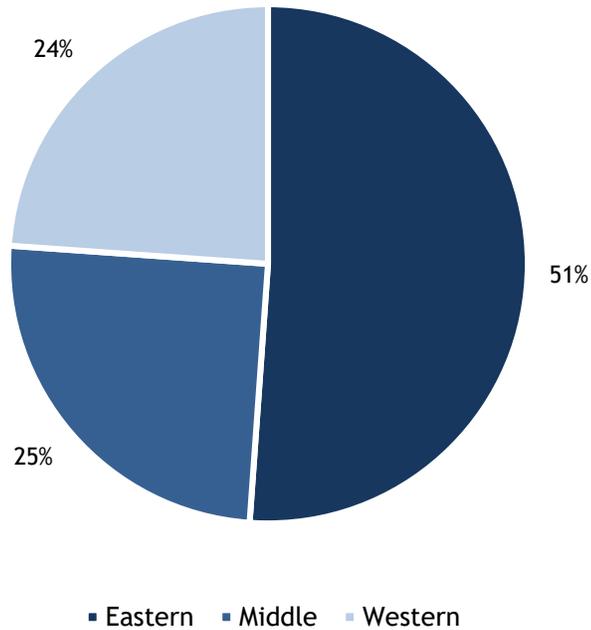
President Judge Susan Peikes Gantman
President Judge Emeritus John T. Bender
Judge Mary Jane Bowes
Judge Jack A. Panella
Judge Jacqueline O. Shogan
Judge Anne E. Lazarus
Judge Judith Ference Olson
Judge Paula Francisco Ott
Judge Victor P. Stabile
Judge Alice Beck Dubow
Judge H. Geoffrey Moulton, Jr.
Judge Carl A. Solano
Judge Lillian Harris Ransom
Judge John L. Musmanno
President Judge Emeritus Kate Ford Elliott
President Judge Emeritus Correale F. Stevens
Judge James J. Fitzgerald, III
Judge William H. Platt
Judge Eugene B. Strassburger, III

Department Heads

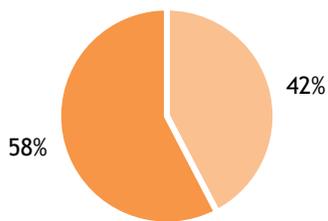
Michael DiPasquale, Esquire
Executive Administrator
Joseph D. Seletyn, Esquire
Prothonotary
Philip H. Yoon, Esquire
Chief Staff Attorney
Robert M. Levine, Esquire
Reporter
Peter F. Johnson, Esquire
Legal Systems Coordinator



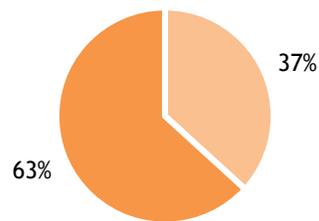
Appeals by District in 2017



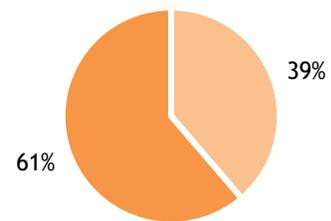
Western District



Middle District



Eastern District

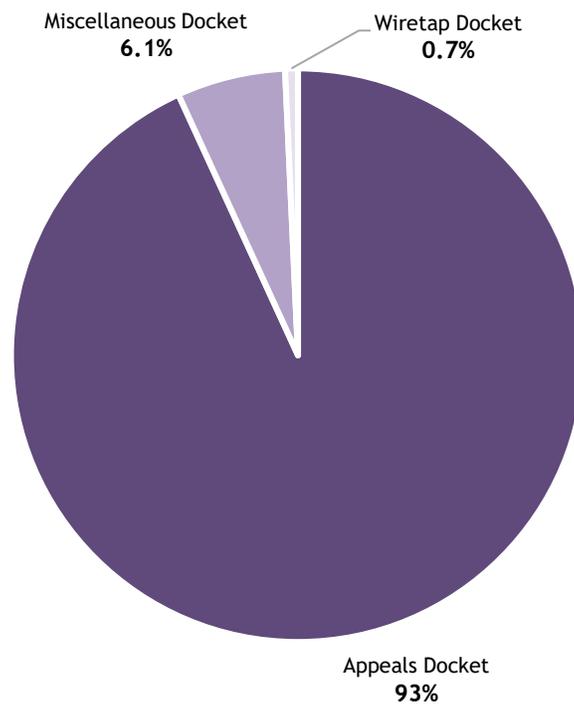


● Civil ● Criminal

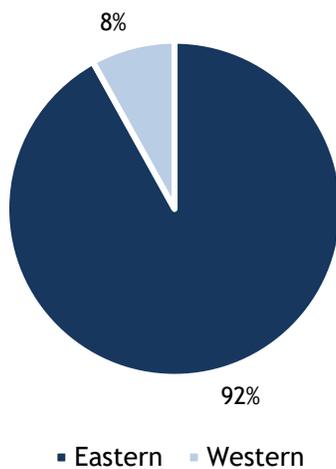
| | Civil | Criminal | Total |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Eastern | 1,588 | 2,512 | 4,100 |
| Middle | 737 | 1,267 | 2,004 |
| Western | 811 | 1,104 | 1,915 |
| Total | 3,136 | 4,883 | 8,019 |



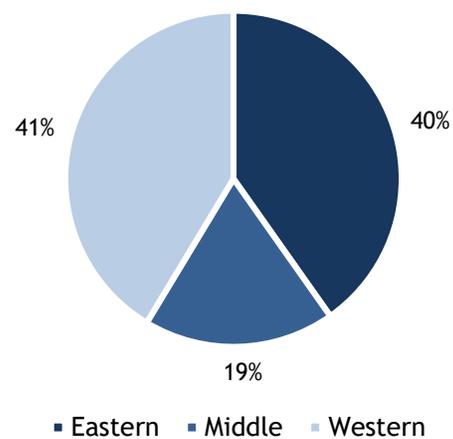
Cases by Docket Type in 2017



Wiretap Docket by Docketing District in 2017



Miscellaneous Docket by District in 2017



| | Miscellaneous Docket | Wiretap Docket | Appeals Docket | Total |
|--------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Eastern | 212 | 57 | 4,100 | 4,369 |
| Middle | 97 | * | 2,004 | 2,101 |
| Western | 218 | 5 | 1,915 | 2,138 |
| Total | 527 | 62 | 8,019 | 8,608 |

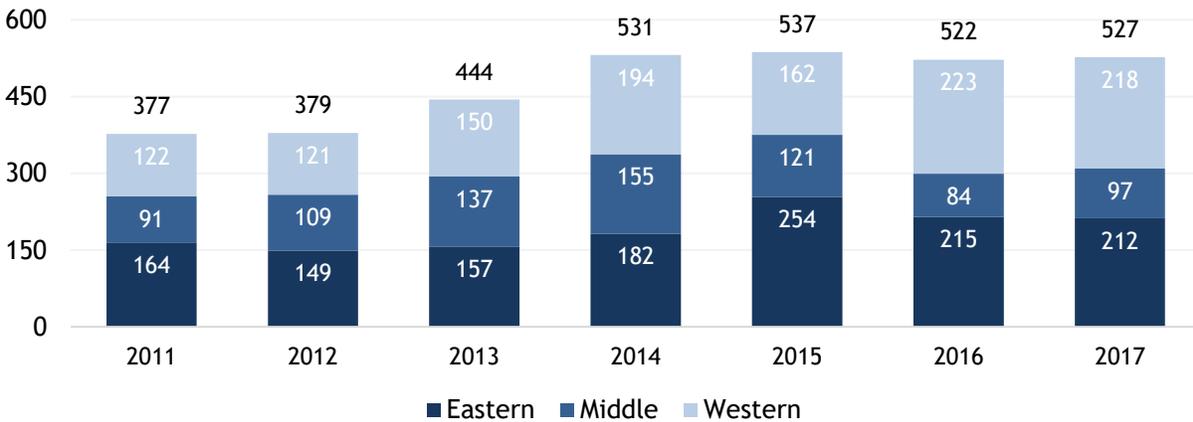
* Middle District wiretaps are maintained in the Eastern District office.



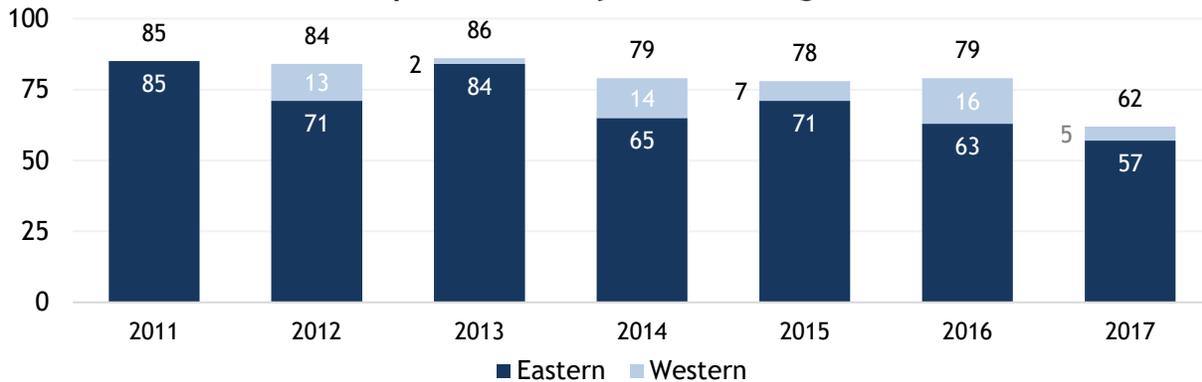
Appeals Docket Applications for Relief



Miscellaneous Docket

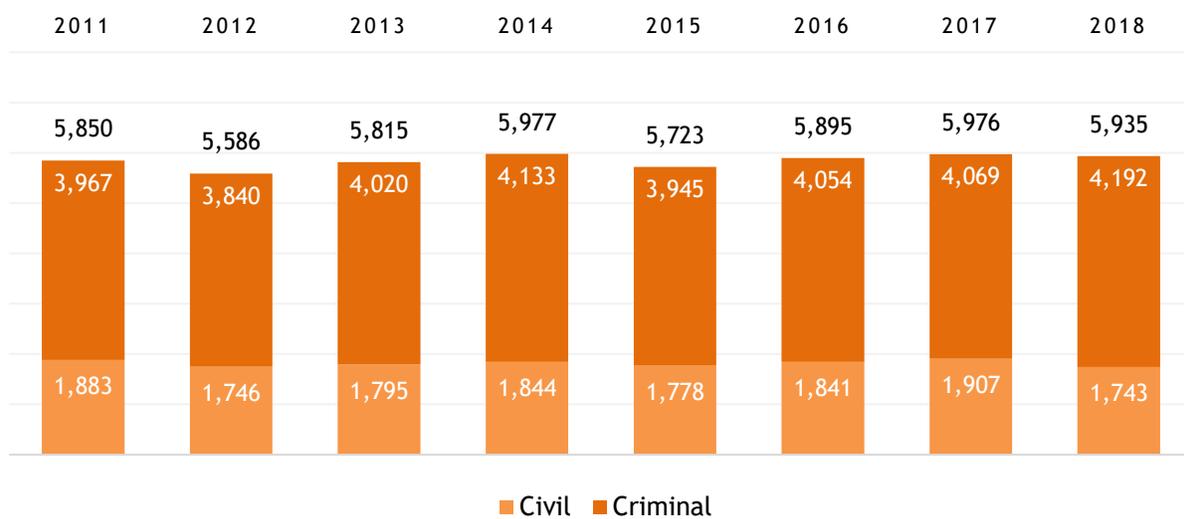


Wiretap Docket by Docketing District





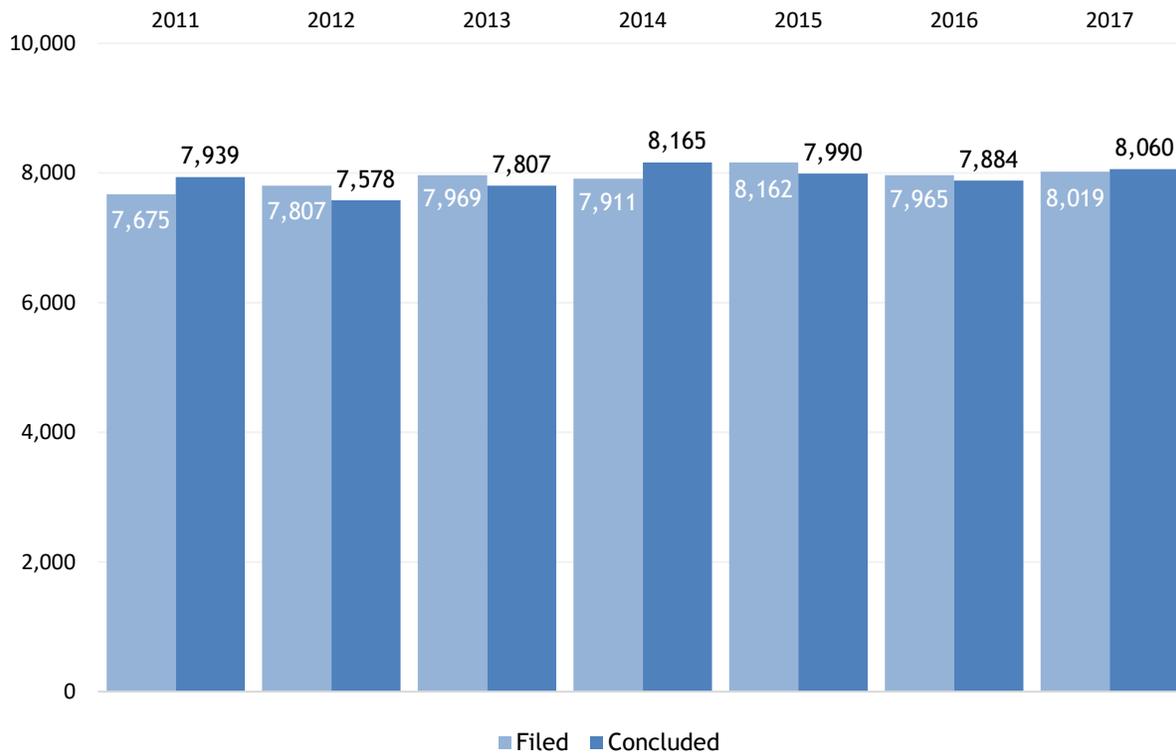
Appeals Pending as of January 1



| | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Civil Appeals Pending 1/1 | 1,883 | 1,746 | 1,795 | 1,844 | 1,778 | 1,841 | 1,907 |
| Criminal Appeals Pending 1/1 | 3,967 | 3,840 | 4,020 | 4,133 | 3,945 | 4,054 | 4,069 |
| Total | 5,850 | 5,586 | 5,815 | 5,977 | 5,723 | 5,895 | 5,976 |
| Civil Appeals Pending 12/31 | 1,746 | 1,795 | 1,844 | 1,778 | 1,841 | 1,907 | 1,743 |
| Criminal Appeals Pending 12/31 | 3,840 | 4,020 | 4,133 | 3,945 | 4,054 | 4,069 | 4,192 |
| Total | 5,586 | 5,815 | 5,977 | 5,723 | 5,895 | 5,976 | 5,935 |



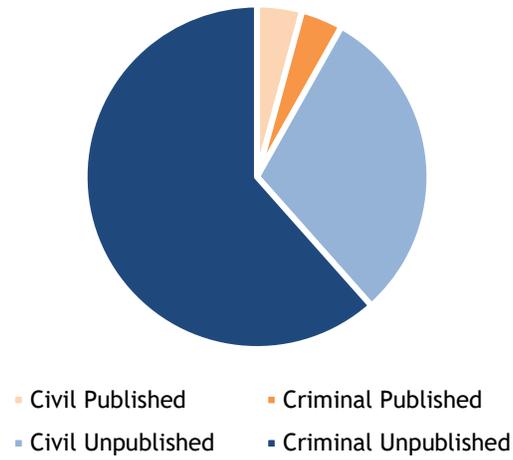
Appeals Filed and Concluded



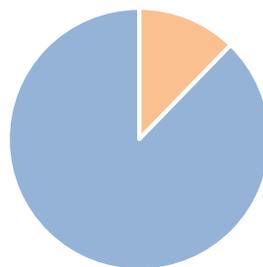
| | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Civil Appeals Filed | 3,133 | 3,063 | 3,118 | 3,036 | 3,209 | 3,183 | 3,136 |
| Criminal Appeals Filed | 4,542 | 4,744 | 4,851 | 4,875 | 4,953 | 4,782 | 4,883 |
| Total | 7,675 | 7,807 | 7,969 | 7,911 | 8,162 | 7,965 | 8,019 |
| | | | | | | | |
| Civil Appeals Concluded | 3,270 | 3,014 | 3,069 | 3,102 | 3,146 | 3,117 | 3,300 |
| Criminal Appeals Concluded | 4,669 | 4,564 | 4,738 | 5,063 | 4,844 | 4,767 | 4,760 |
| Total | 7,939 | 7,578 | 7,807 | 8,165 | 7,990 | 7,884 | 8,060 |



Publication in 2017

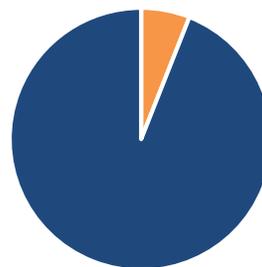


Civil Publication in 2017



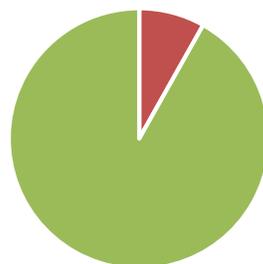
Published - 12%
Unpublished - 88%

Criminal Publication in 2017



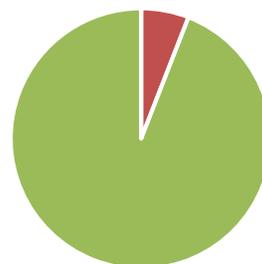
Published - 6%
Unpublished - 94%

Total Publication in 2017



Total Published - 8%
Total Unpublished - 92%

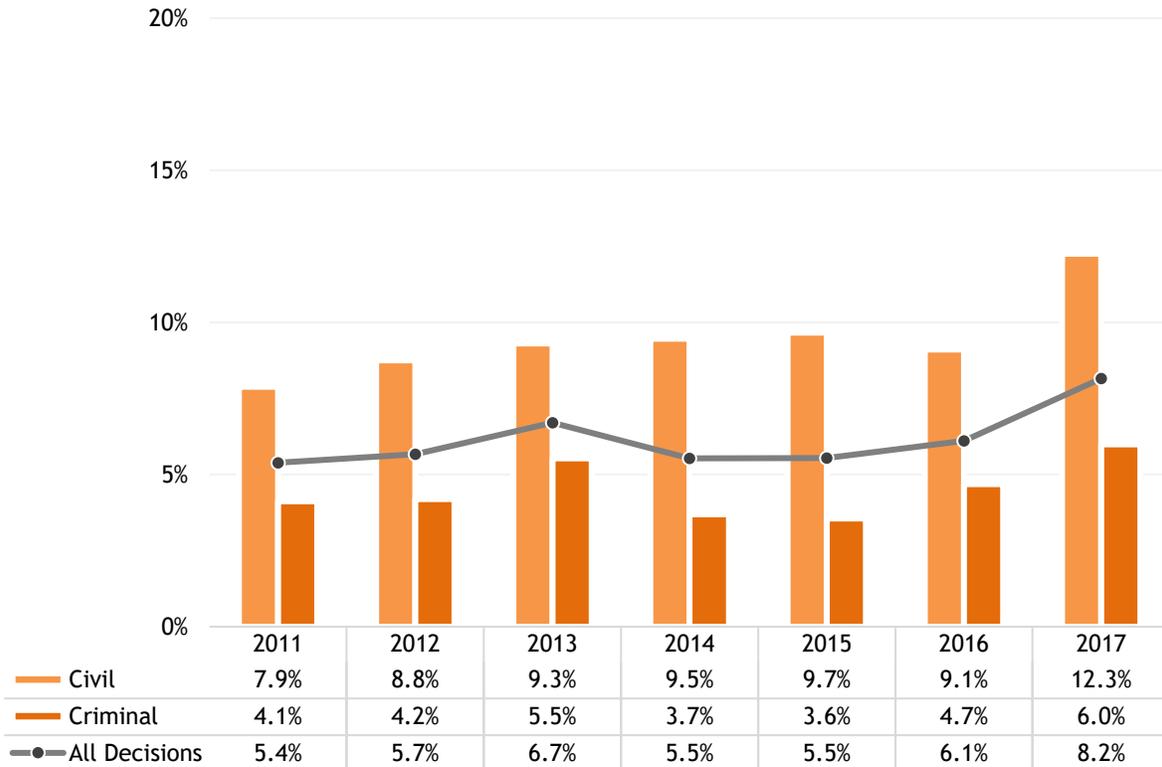
Average Since 2012



Average Published - 6%
Average Unpublished - 94%



Share of Published Decisions among Filed Decisions

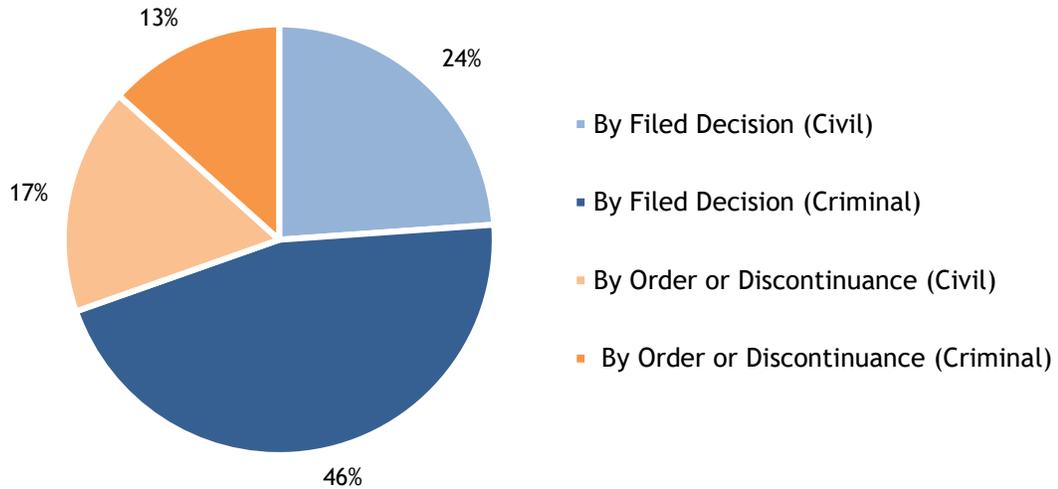


| | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Civil Published | 137 | 138 | 141 | 159 | 155 | 149 | 217 |
| Criminal Published | 141 | 139 | 185 | 132 | 119 | 162 | 201 |
| Total Published | 278 | 277 | 326 | 291 | 274 | 311 | 418 |
| Civil Unpublished | 1,600 | 1,439 | 1,374 | 1,520 | 1,448 | 1,486 | 1,553 |
| Criminal Unpublished | 3,279 | 3,173 | 3,160 | 3,446 | 3,224 | 3,292 | 3,154 |
| Total Unpublished | 4,879 | 4,612 | 4,534 | 4,966 | 4,672 | 4,778 | 4,707 |
| Total Filed Decisions* | 5,157 | 4,889 | 4,860 | 5,257 | 4,946 | 5,089 | 5,125 |

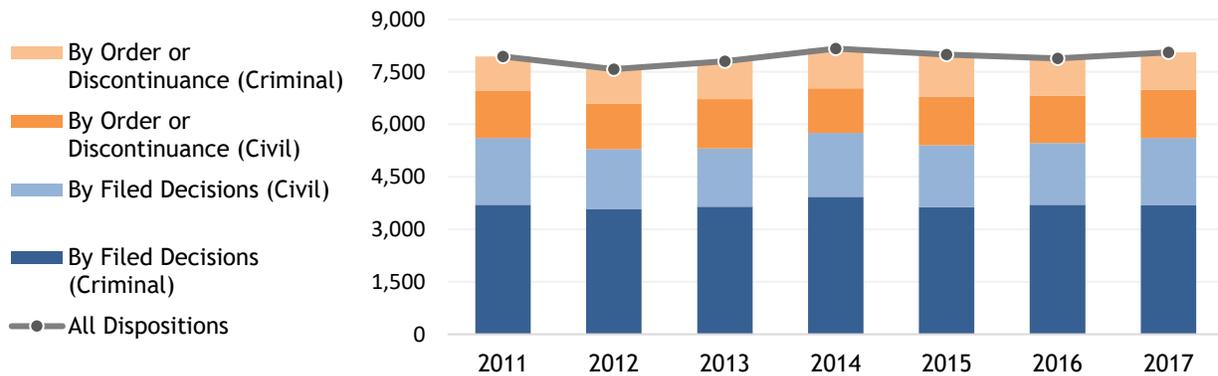
* The total of filed decisions was calculated by totaling this Court's published opinions, opinions *per curiam*, memorandum decisions, and judgment orders



Dispositions by Type in 2017



Number of Dispositions by Year

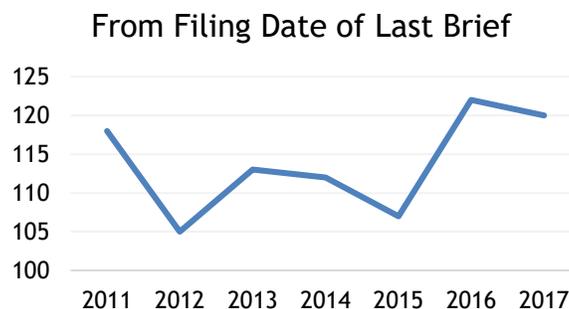
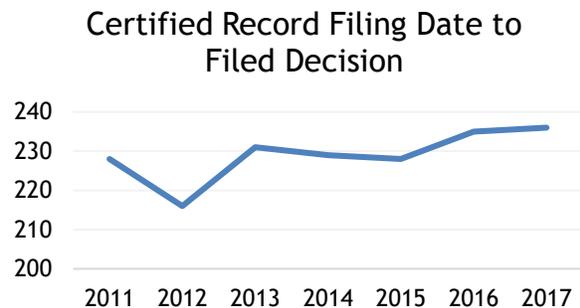
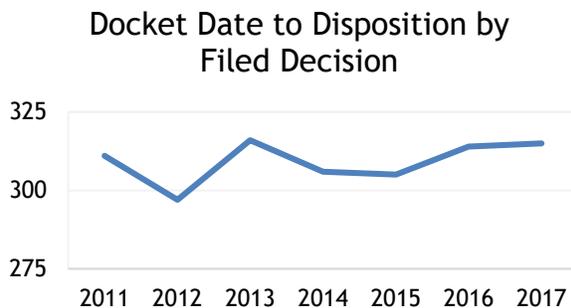
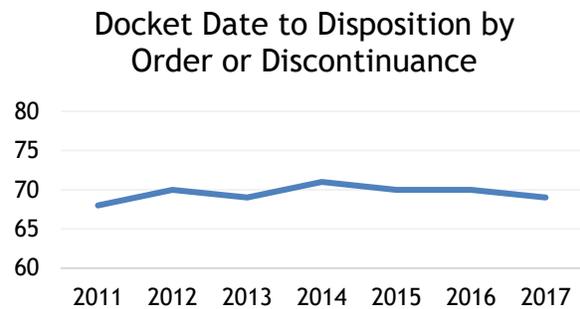
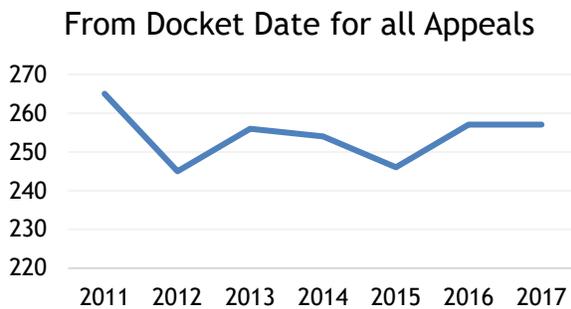
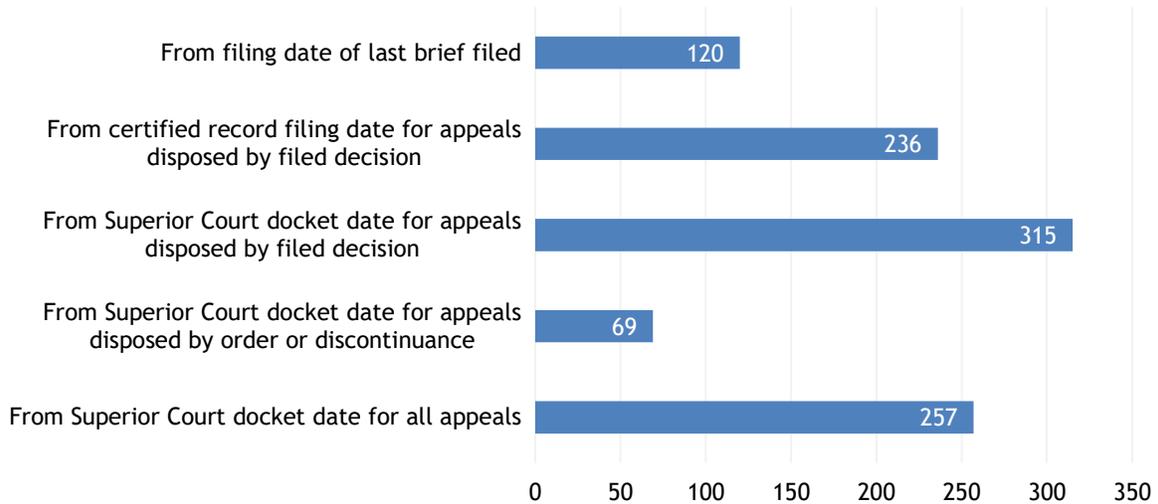


| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Filed Decision (Civil) | 1,908 | 1,707 | 1,667 | 1,823 | 1,757 | 1,762 | 1,925 |
| Filed Decision (Criminal) | 3,701 | 3,584 | 3,648 | 3,931 | 3,641 | 3,704 | 3,685 |
| Filed Decision Total* | 5,609 | 5,291 | 5,315 | 5,754 | 5,398 | 5,466 | 5,610 |
| Order or Discontinuance (Civil) | 1,362 | 1,307 | 1,402 | 1,279 | 1,389 | 1,355 | 1,375 |
| Order or Discontinuance (Crim.) | 968 | 980 | 1,090 | 1,132 | 1,203 | 1,063 | 1,075 |
| Order or Discontinuance Total | 2,330 | 2,287 | 2,492 | 2,411 | 2,592 | 2,418 | 2,450 |
| All Dispositions | 7,939 | 7,578 | 7,807 | 8,165 | 7,990 | 7,884 | 8,060 |

* The filed decision total here differs from the total on Page 8 because it accounts for consolidated decisions and reflects the total number of appeals decided by written decision.

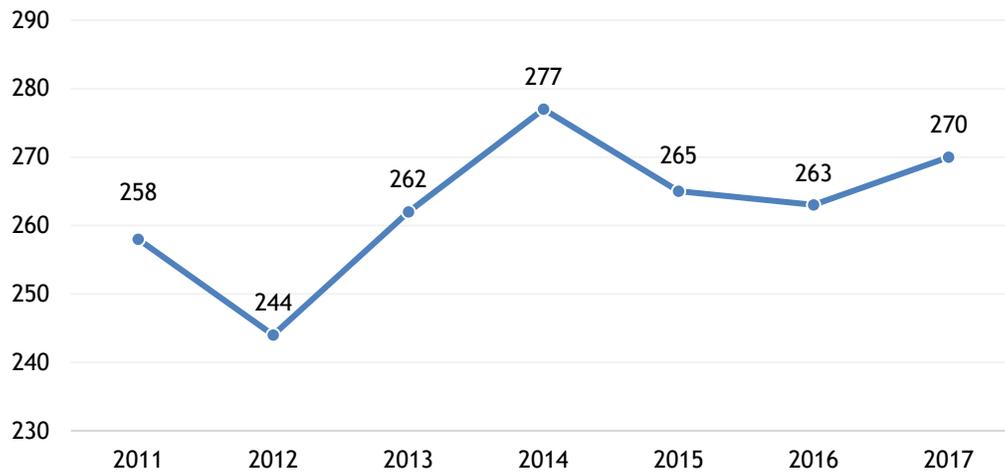


Median Number of Days to Disposition for Appeals Concluded in 2017





Filed Decisions per Judge per Year

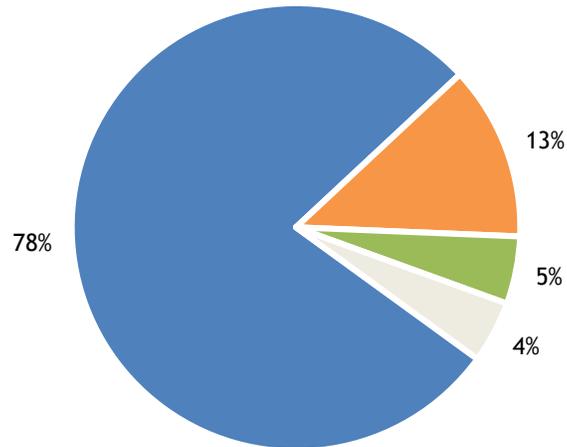


Number of Appeals by County

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------------|-----|----------------|-------|--------------|--------------|
| Adams | 54 | Clinton | 28 | Lackawanna | 112 | Pike | 23 |
| Allegheny | 733 | Columbia | 19 | Lancaster | 201 | Potter | 6 |
| Armstrong | 15 | Crawford | 33 | Lawrence | 29 | Schuylkill | 55 |
| Beaver | 38 | Cumberland | 102 | Lebanon | 66 | Snyder | 15 |
| Bedford | 18 | Dauphin | 249 | Lehigh | 156 | Somerset | 34 |
| Berks | 216 | Delaware | 367 | Luzerne | 177 | Sullivan | 4 |
| Blair | 81 | Elk | 16 | Lycoming | 81 | Susquehanna | 11 |
| Bradford | 30 | Erie | 172 | McKean | 25 | Tioga | 16 |
| Bucks | 221 | Fayette | 91 | Mercer | 38 | Union | 19 |
| Butler | 55 | Forest | 13 | Mifflin | 19 | Venango | 29 |
| Cambria | 68 | Franklin | 91 | Monroe | 137 | Warren | 16 |
| Cameron | 10 | Fulton | 11 | Montgomery | 393 | Washington | 91 |
| Carbon | 19 | Greene | 37 | Montour | 7 | Wayne | 26 |
| Centre | 91 | Huntingdon | 34 | Northampton | 122 | Westmoreland | 132 |
| Chester | 225 | Indiana | 32 | Northumberland | 26 | Wyoming | 34 |
| Clarion | 20 | Jefferson | 52 | Perry | 8 | York | 224 |
| Clearfield | 29 | Juniata | 6 | Philadelphia | 2,411 | TOTAL | 8,019 |



Superior Court Treatment in Filed Decisions in 2017

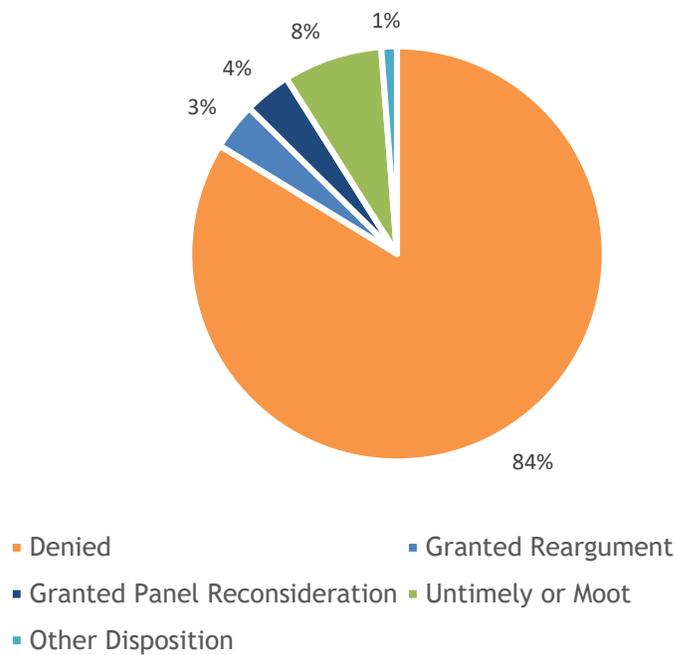


■ Affirm
 ■ Reverse
 ■ Affirm in Part Reverse in Part
 ■ Quash Dismiss or Transfer

| | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Affirmed (Published) | 183 | 180 | 254 | 175 | 153 | 191 | 212 |
| Affirmed (Unpublished) | 4,259 | 4,030 | 3,978 | 4,419 | 4,023 | 4,123 | 4,154 |
| Affirm Total | 4,442 | 4,210 | 4,232 | 4,594 | 4,176 | 4,314 | 4,366 |
| Reversed (Published) | 98 | 102 | 103 | 119 | 113 | 102 | 168 |
| Reversed (Unpublished) | 629 | 523 | 521 | 629 | 632 | 614 | 537 |
| Reverse Total | 727 | 625 | 624 | 748 | 745 | 716 | 705 |
| Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part (Published) | 26 | 23 | 32 | 26 | 40 | 36 | 62 |
| Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part (Unpublished) | 189 | 160 | 162 | 159 | 229 | 159 | 211 |
| Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part Total | 215 | 183 | 194 | 185 | 269 | 195 | 273 |
| Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred (Published) | 12 | 4 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 19 | 17 |
| Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred (Unpublished) | 212 | 264 | 249 | 210 | 182 | 212 | 233 |
| Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred Total | 224 | 268 | 258 | 220 | 193 | 231 | 250 |
| Other (Published) | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 |
| Other (Unpublished) | 1 | 3 | 7 | 7 | 13 | 8 | 11 |
| Other Total | 1 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 15 | 10 | 16 |



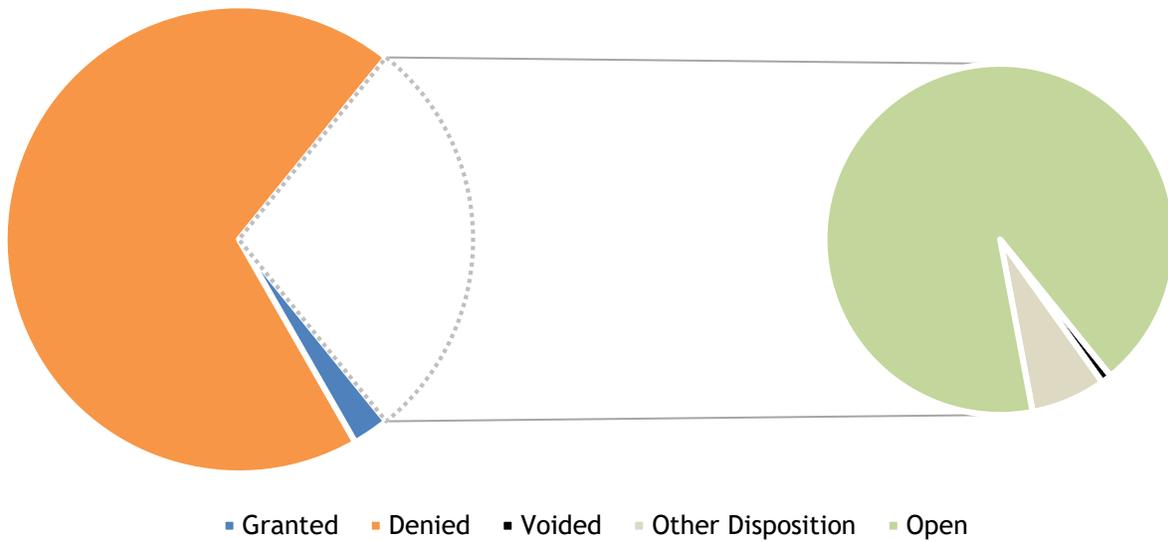
Applications for Reconsideration or Reargument in 2017



| Treatment | Absolute | Percent |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Denied | 412 | 83.23% |
| Granted Reargument | 18 | 3.64% |
| Granted Panel Reconsideration | 18 | 3.64% |
| Untimely or Moot | 38 | 7.68% |
| Other Disposition | 6 | 1.21% |
| Withdrawn | 3 | 0.61% |
| TOTAL | 495 | 100% |



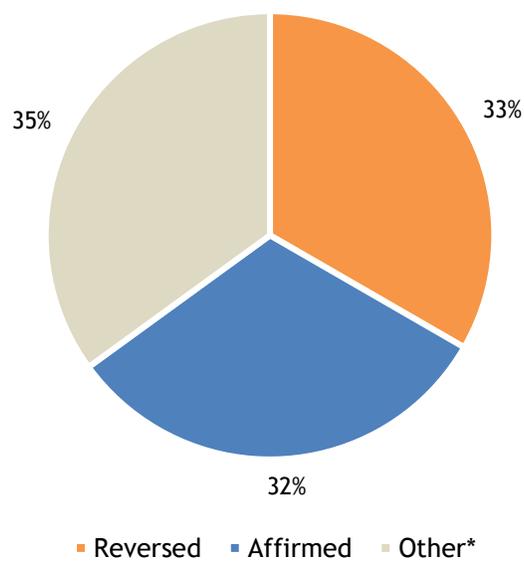
Supreme Court Treatment of Petitions for Allowance of Appeal from Superior Court Decisions in 2017



| Petitions for Allowance of Appeal | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total | 2,078 | 1,947 | 2,026 | 1,923 | 1,895 | 1,704 | 1,655 |
| Granted | 53 | 42 | 59 | 39 | 38 | 40 | 56 |
| Denied | 2,136 | 1,741 | 1,999 | 1,954 | 1,867 | 1,545 | 1,519 |
| Voided | 6 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 6 |
| Other Disposition | 103 | 55 | 54 | 93 | 45 | 111 | 43 |
| Open | 908 | 1,013 | 892 | 632 | 405 | 584 | 574 |



Supreme Court Disposition of Allowed Appeals from Superior Court Decisions in 2017



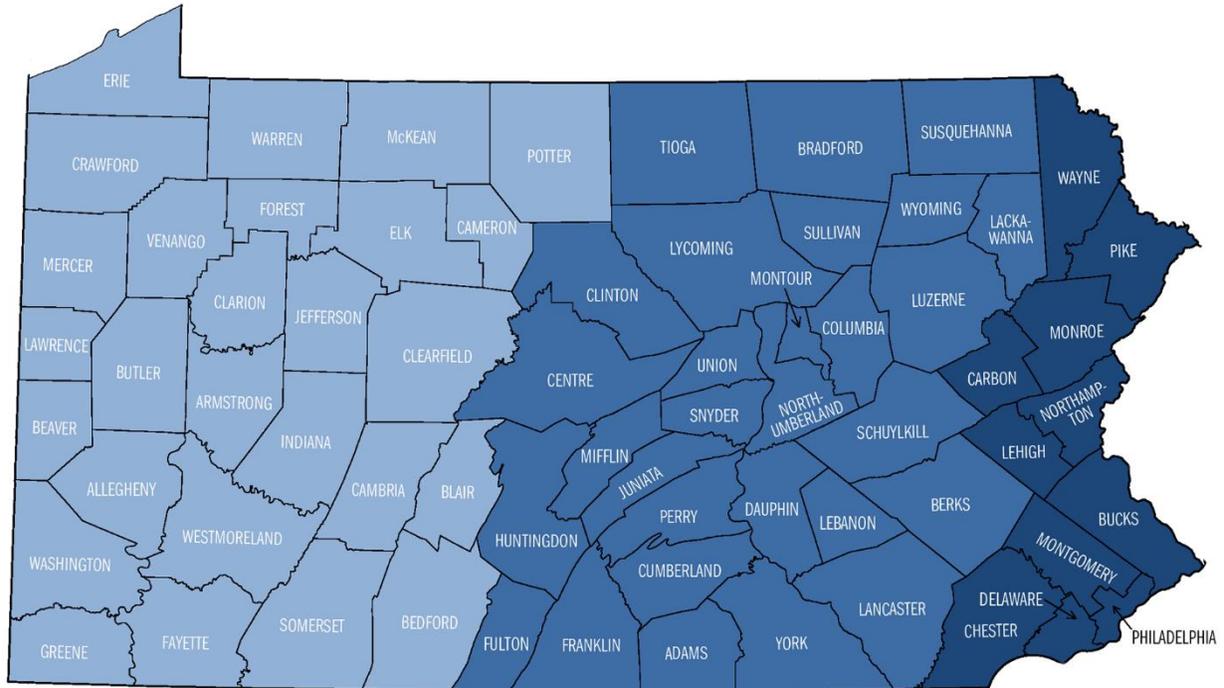
| Disposition | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Reversed | 21 | 23 | 28 | 25 | 36 | 13 | 20 |
| Affirmed | 18 | 27 | 26 | 28 | 18 | 13 | 19 |
| Other* | 25 | 25 | 22 | 26 | 30 | 24 | 21 |
| TOTAL | 64 | 75 | 76 | 79 | 84 | 50 | 60 |

* 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, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Schuylkill, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Wyoming, York

Eastern District ● Philadelphia

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

