



2019

ANNUAL REPORT OF STATISTICS
SUPERIOR COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

May 22, 2020



JUDGES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

President Judge Jack A. Panella
President Judge Emeritus John T. Bender
Judge Mary Jane Bowes
President Judge Emeritus Susan Peikes Gantman
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 Deborah A. Kunselman
Judge Carolyn H. Nichols
Judge Mary P. Murray
Judge Maria C. McLaughlin
Judge John L. Musmanno
President Judge Emeritus Kate Ford Elliott
President Judge Emeritus Correale F. Stevens
Judge Eugene B. Strassburger, III
Judge James G. Colins
Judge Dan Pellegrini

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR

Christopher Nace, Esquire

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Joseph D. Seletyn, Esquire
Prothonotary

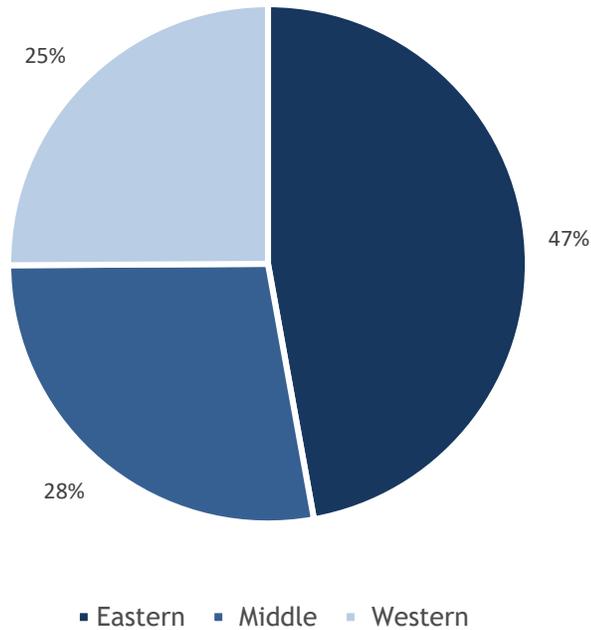
Philip H. Yoon, Esquire
Chief Staff Attorney

Kaitlin A. Gorman, Esquire
Reporter

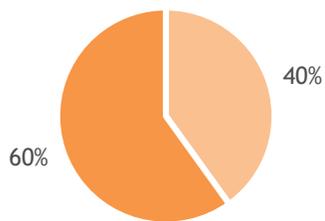
Peter F. Johnson, Esquire
Legal Systems Coordinator



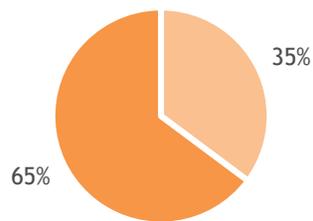
Appeals by District in 2019



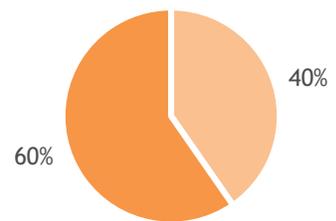
Western District



Middle District



Eastern District

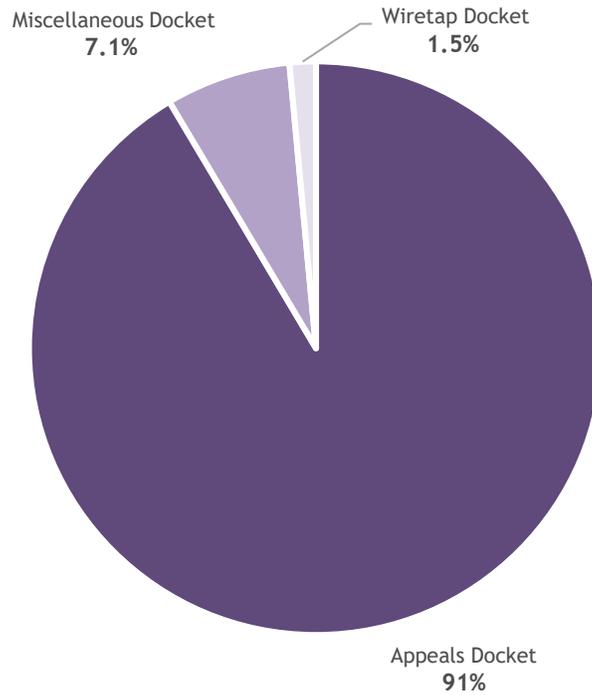


● Civil ● Criminal

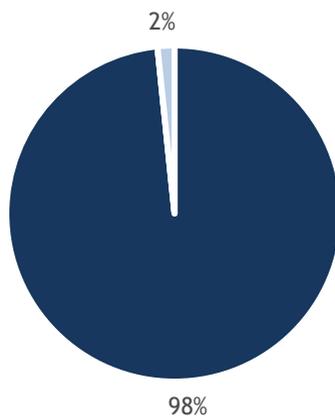
	Civil	Criminal	Total
Eastern	1,448	2,132	3,580
Middle	742	1,366	2,108
Western	765	1,144	1,909
Total	2,956	4,653	7,597



Cases by Docket Type in 2019

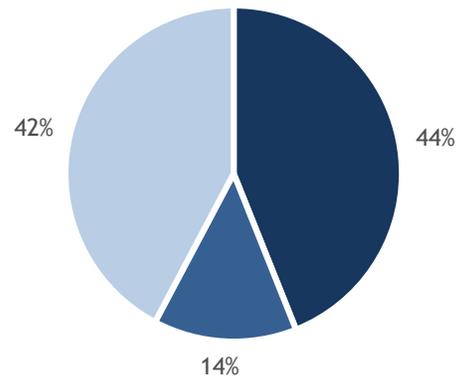


Wiretap Docket by Docketing District in 2019



■ Eastern ■ Western

Miscellaneous Docket by District in 2019*



■ Eastern ■ Middle ■ Western

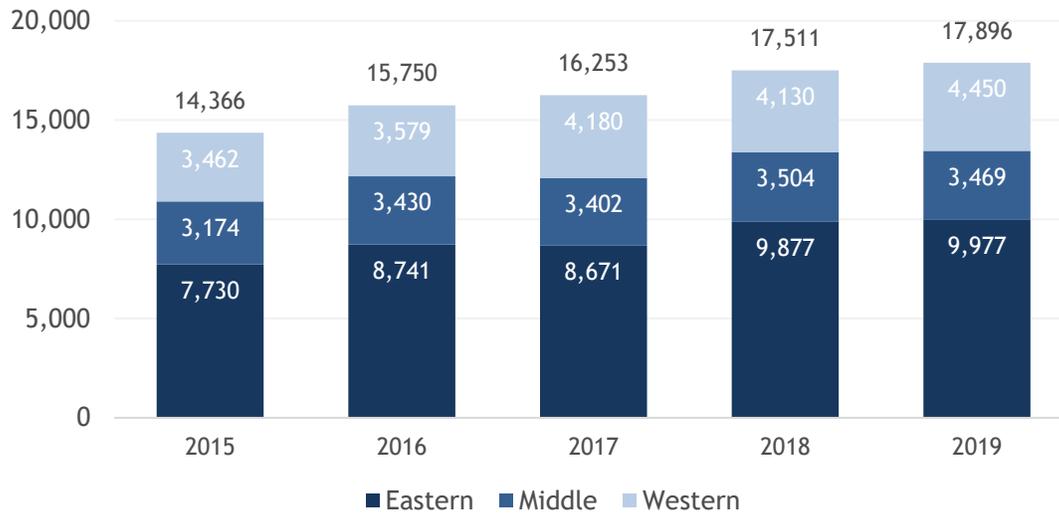
	Miscellaneous Docket	Wiretap Docket	Appeals Docket	Total
Eastern	258	121	3,580	3,959
Middle	81	†	2,108	2,189
Western	248	2	1,909	2,159
Total	587	123	7,597	8,307

* Miscellaneous dockets are comprised of filings unrelated to active docketed appeals, such as Petitions for Permission to Appeal.

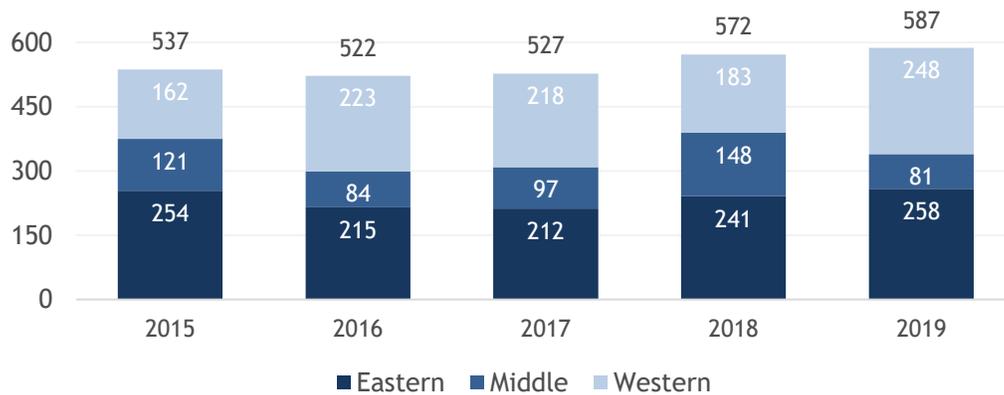
† Middle District wiretap applications are maintained in the Eastern District office.



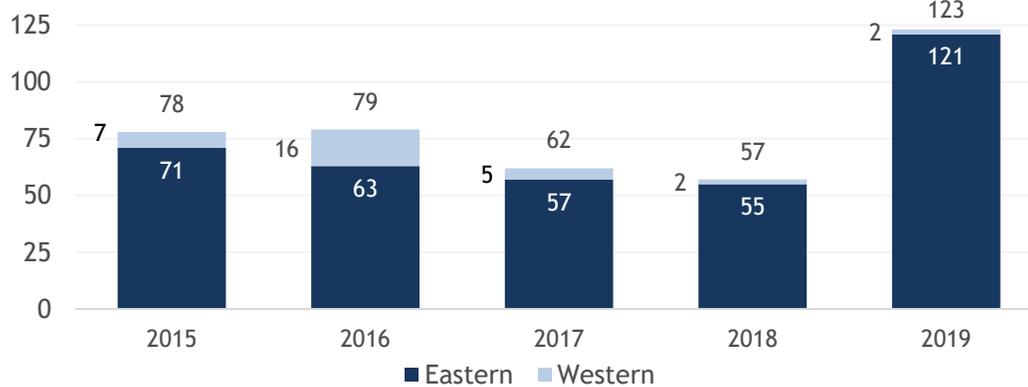
Appeals Docket Applications (Applications related to active docketed appeals)



Miscellaneous Docket Applications (Applications unrelated to active docketed appeals)



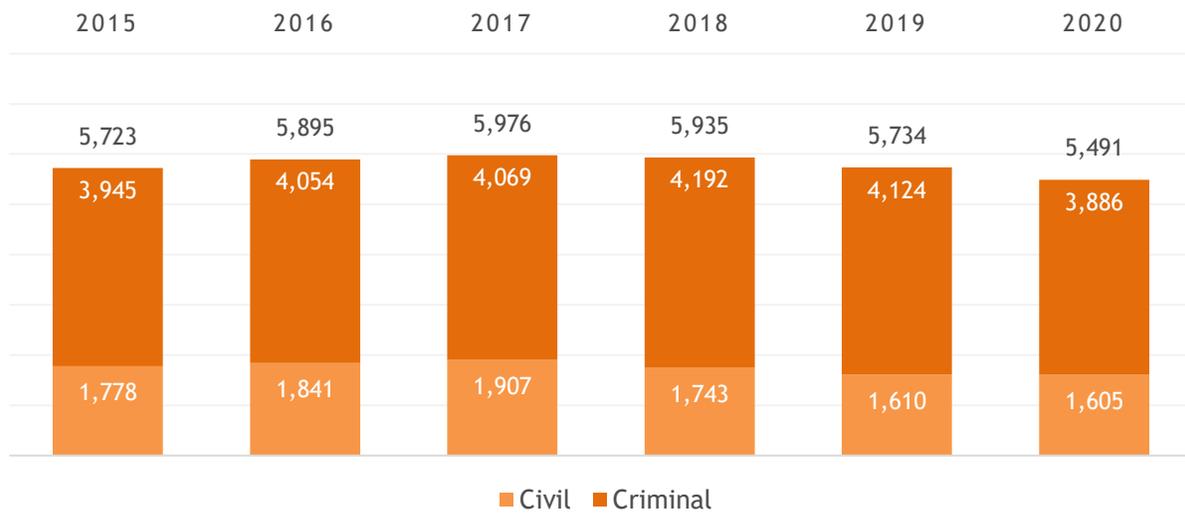
Wiretap Applications by Docketing District



* Middle District wiretap applications are maintained in the Eastern District office.



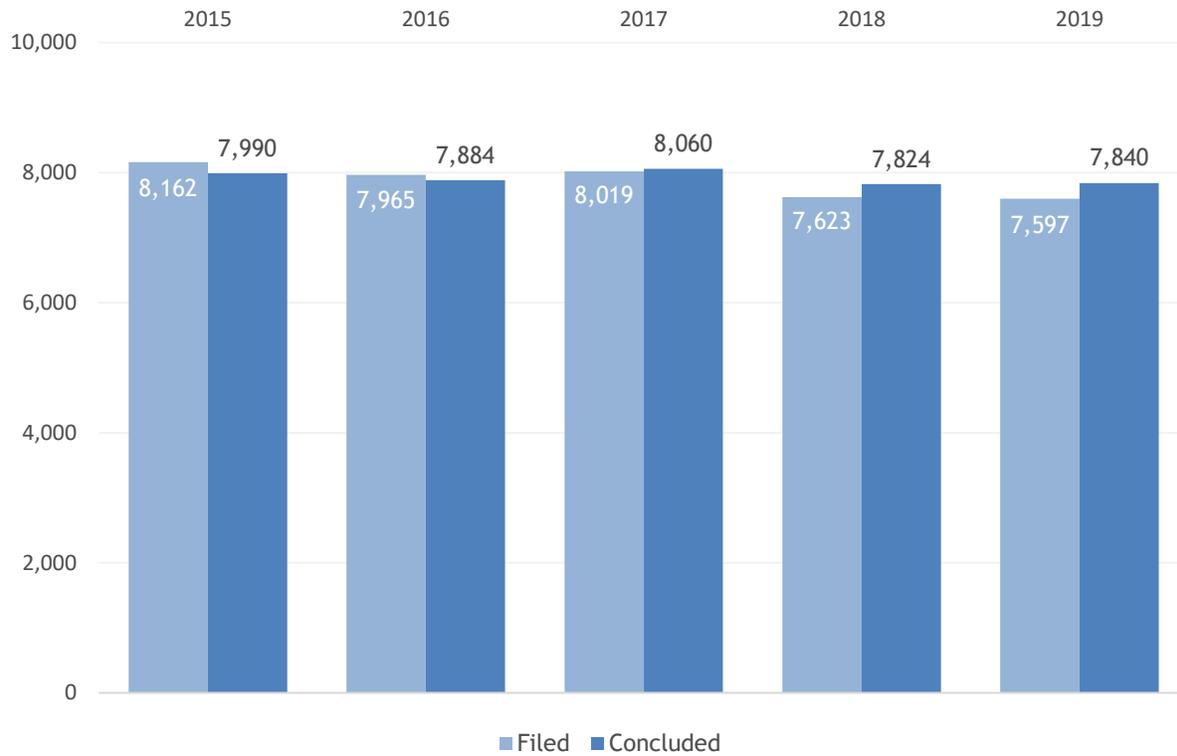
Appeals Pending as of January 1



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Civil Appeals Pending 1/1	1,778	1,841	1,907	1,743	1,610	1,605
Criminal Appeals Pending 1/1	3,945	4,054	4,069	4,192	4,124	3,886
Total	5,723	5,895	5,976	5,935	5,734	5,491
Civil Appeals Pending 12/31	1,841	1,907	1,743	1,610	1,605	N/A
Criminal Appeals Pending 12/31	4,054	4,069	4,192	4,124	3,886	N/A
Total	5,895	5,976	5,935	5,734	5,491	N/A



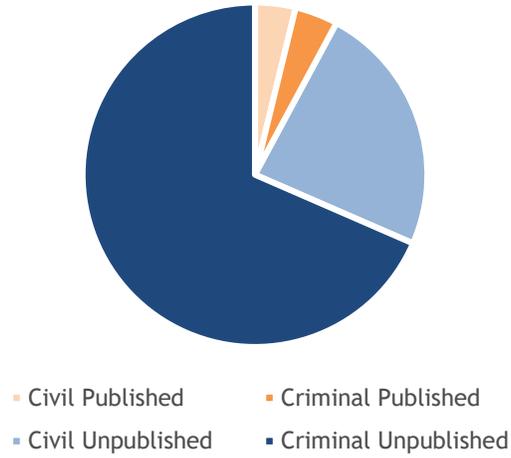
Appeals Filed and Concluded



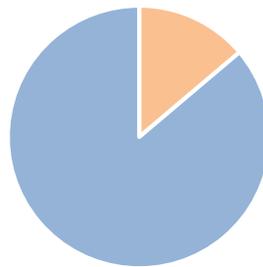
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Civil Appeals Filed	3,209	3,183	3,136	2,909	2,939
Criminal Appeals Filed	4,953	4,782	4,883	4,714	4,658
Total	8,162	7,965	8,019	7,623	7,597
Civil Appeals Concluded	3,146	3,117	3,300	3,042	2,944
Criminal Appeals Concluded	4,844	4,767	4,760	4,782	4,896
Total	7,990	7,884	8,060	7,824	7,840



Publication in 2019

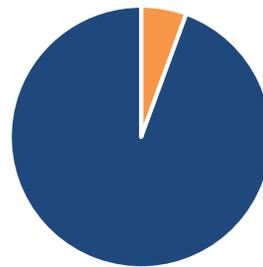


Civil Publication in 2019



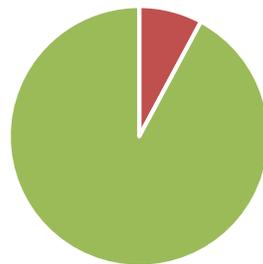
Published - 14%
Unpublished - 86%

Criminal Publication in 2019



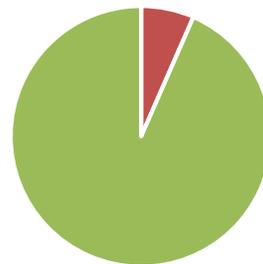
Published - 6%
Unpublished - 94%

Total Publication in 2019



Total Published - 8%
Total Unpublished - 92%

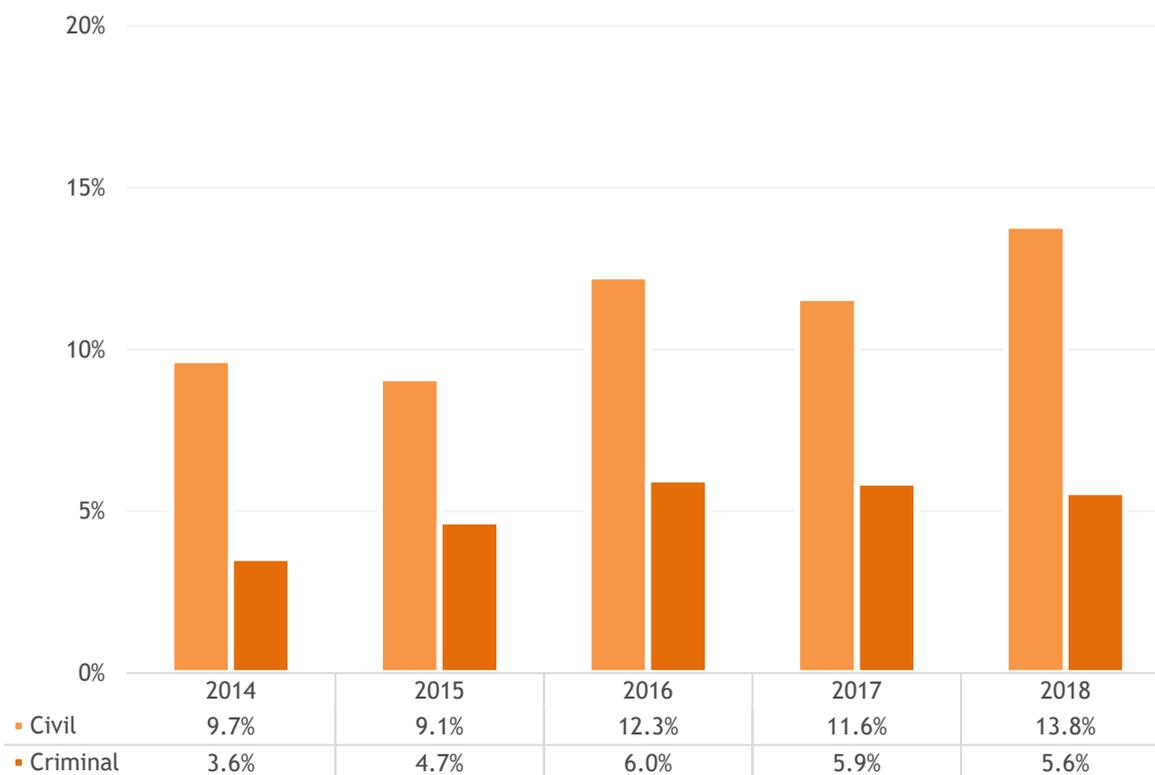
Average Since 2015



Average Published - 7%
Average Unpublished - 93%



Share of Published Decisions among Filed Decisions

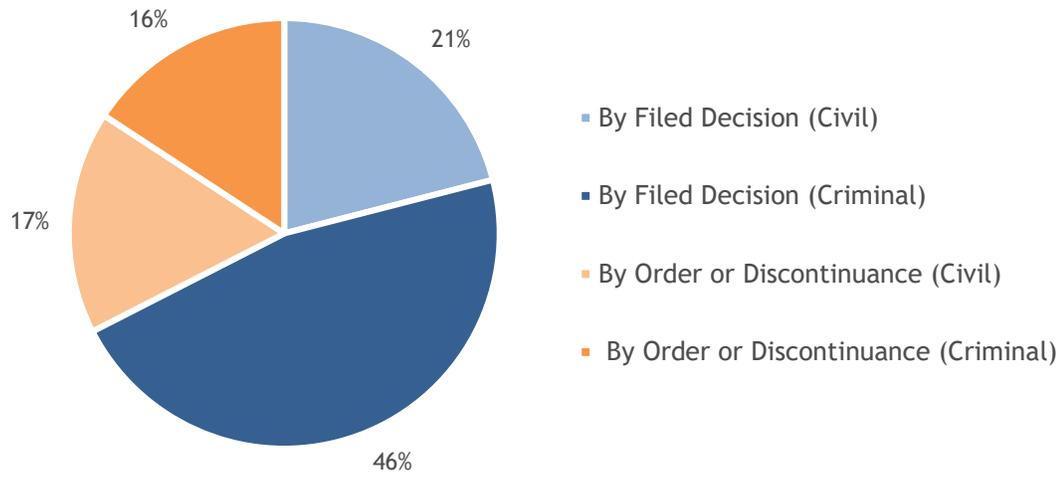


	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Civil Published	155	149	217	159	179
Criminal Published	119	162	201	202	191
Total Published	274	311	418	361	370
Civil Unpublished	1,448	1,486	1,553	1,213	1,116
Criminal Unpublished	3,224	3,292	3,154	3,229	3,227
Total Unpublished	4,672	4,778	4,707	4,442	4,343
Total Filed Decisions *	4,946	5,089	5,125	4,803	4,713

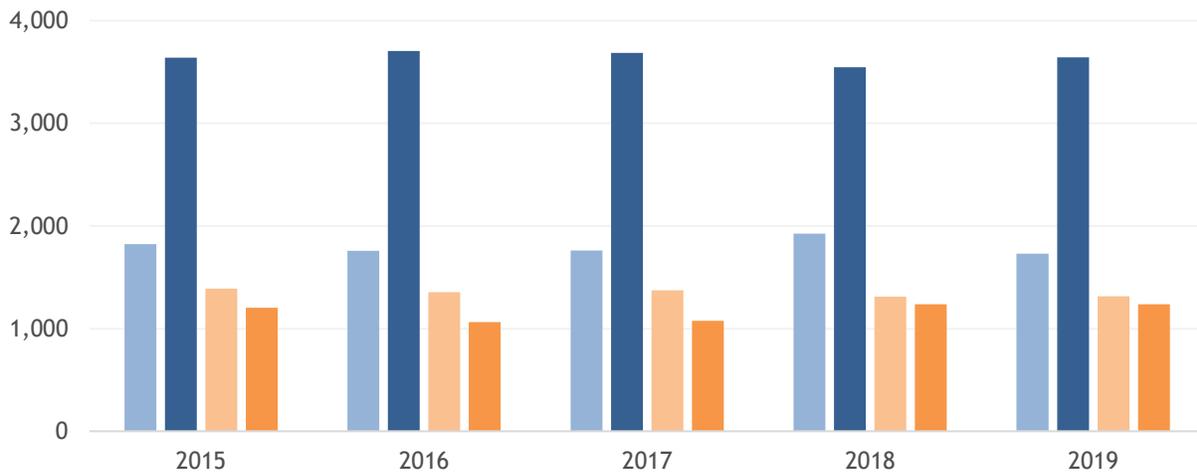
* The total of filed decisions was calculated by totaling this Court's published opinions, opinions *per curiam*, memorandum decisions, and judgment orders.



Dispositions by Type in 2019



Number of Dispositions per Year by Type

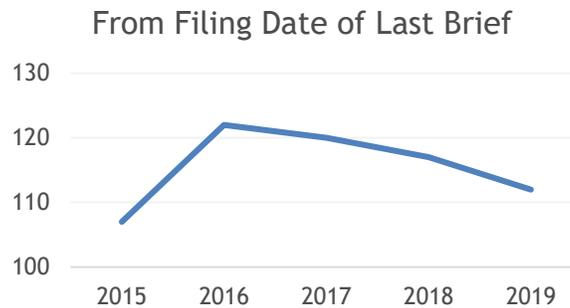
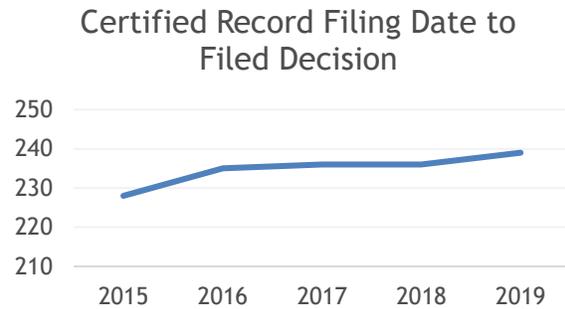
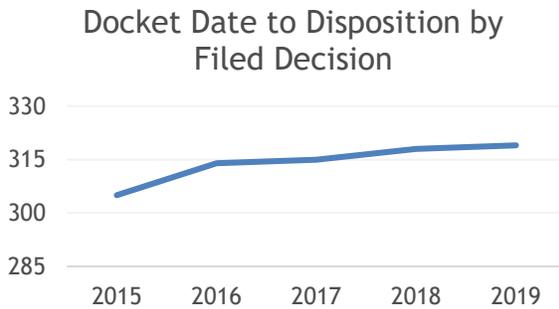
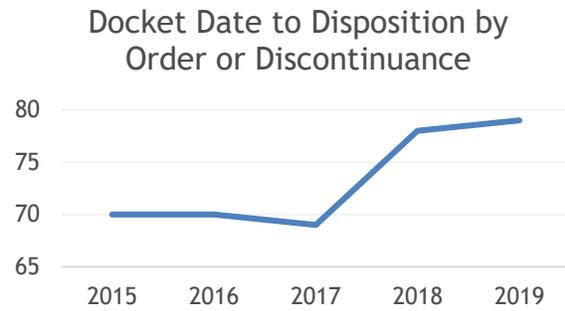
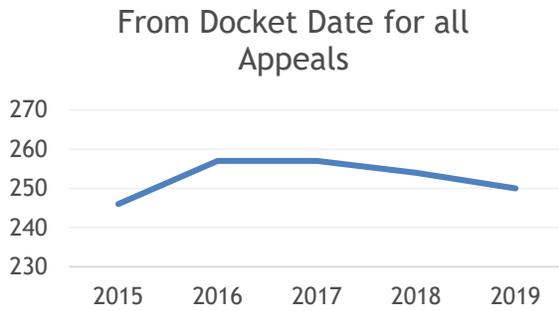
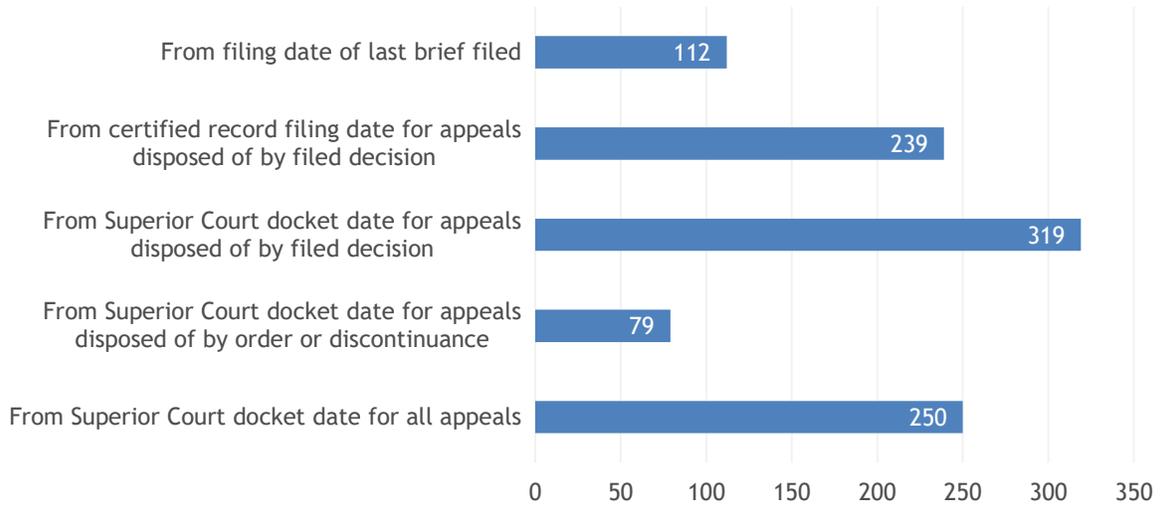


	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Filed Decision (Civil) ●	1,757	1,762	1,925	1,729	1,646
Filed Decision (Criminal) ●	3,641	3,704	3,685	3,546	3,644
Filed Decision Total *	5,398	5,466	5,610	5,275	5,290
Order or Discontinuance (Civil) ●	1,389	1,355	1,375	1,313	1,314
Order or Discontinuance (Criminal) ●	1,203	1,063	1,075	1,236	1,236
Order or Discontinuance Total	2,592	2,418	2,450	2,549	2,550
All Dispositions	7,990	7,884	8,060	7,824	7,840

* 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.

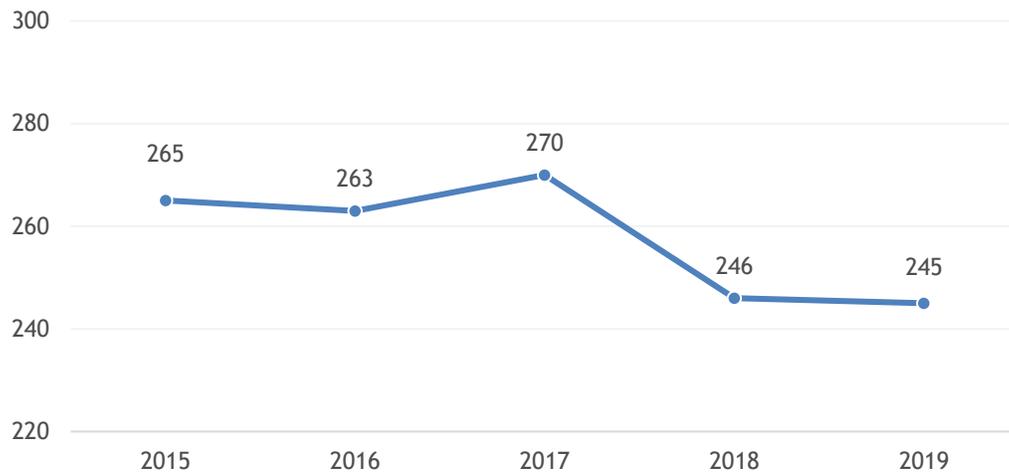


Median Number of Days to Disposition for Appeals Concluded in 2019





Filed Decisions per Judge per Year

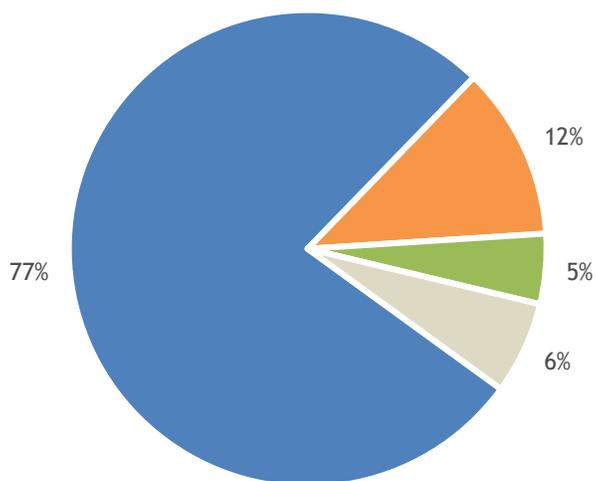


Number of Appeals by County

Adams	41	Clinton	14	Lackawanna	113	Pike	30
Allegheny	681	Columbia	21	Lancaster	235	Potter	13
Armstrong	24	Crawford	43	Lawrence	26	Schuylkill	59
Beaver	47	Cumberland	92	Lebanon	67	Snyder	19
Bedford	31	Dauphin	236	Lehigh	158	Somerset	33
Berks	199	Delaware	255	Luzerne	228	Sullivan	5
Blair	96	Elk	11	Lycoming	85	Susquehanna	9
Bradford	36	Erie	166	McKean	34	Tioga	8
Bucks	202	Fayette	89	Mercer	41	Union	21
Butler	56	Forest	3	Mifflin	23	Venango	33
Cambria	69	Franklin	128	Monroe	134	Warren	17
Cameron	2	Fulton	13	Montgomery	383	Washington	96
Carbon	21	Greene	35	Montour	7	Wayne	39
Centre	89	Huntingdon	37	Northampton	121	Westmoreland	109
Chester	177	Indiana	39	Northumberland	47	Wyoming	19
Clarion	20	Jefferson	51	Perry	18	York	234
Clearfield	43	Juniata	5	Philadelphia	2,061	TOTAL	7,597



Action by Superior Court in Filed Decisions in 2019

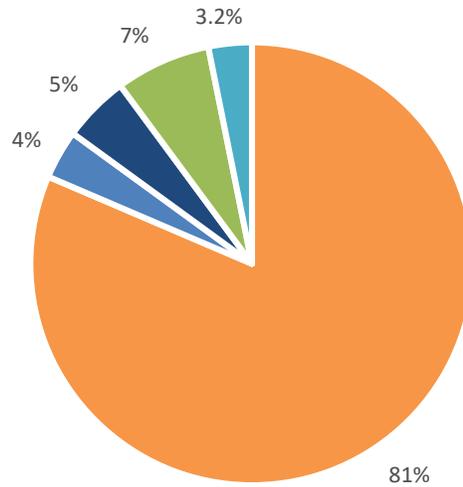


■ Affirmed
 ■ Reversed
 ■ Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part
 ■ Quashed, Dismissed, or Transferred

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Affirmed (Published)	153	191	212	214	262
Affirmed (Unpublished)	4,023	4,123	4,154	3,872	3,805
Affirmed Total	4,176	4,314	4,366	4,086	4,067
Reversed (Published)	113	102	168	162	116
Reversed (Unpublished)	632	614	537	503	502
Reversed Total	745	716	705	665	618
Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part (Published)	40	36	62	46	44
Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part (Unpublished)	229	159	211	251	206
Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part Total	269	195	273	297	250
Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred (Published)	11	19	17	10	19
Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred (Unpublished)	182	212	233	204	311
Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred Total	193	231	250	214	330
Other (Published)	2	2	5	0	2
Other (Unpublished)	13	8	11	13	23
Other Total	15	10	16	13	25



Applications for Reconsideration or Reargument in 2019

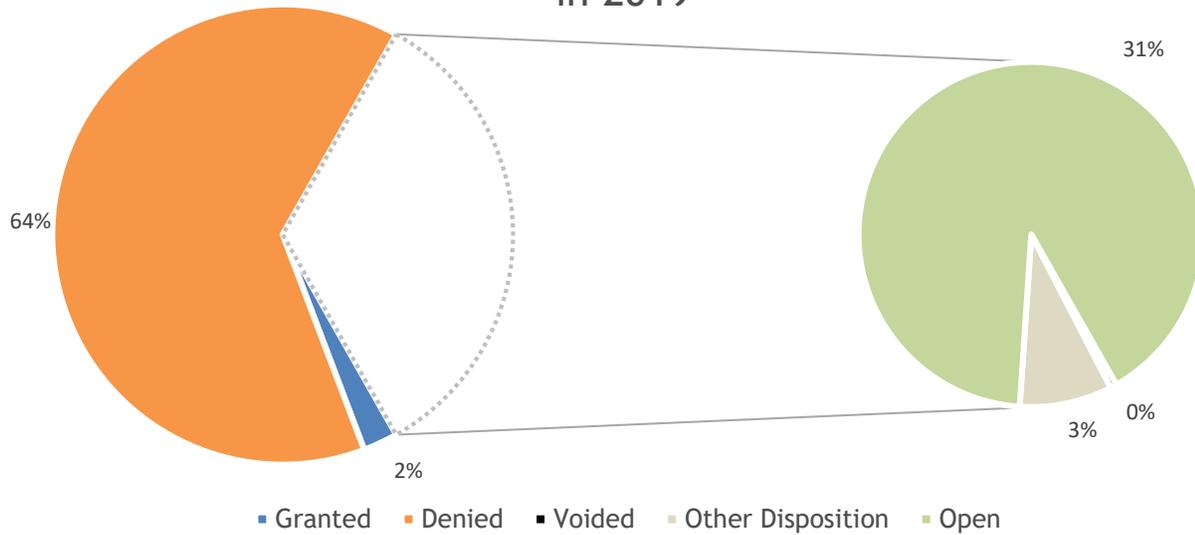


■ Denied
 ■ Granted Reargument
 ■ Granted Panel Reconsideration
 ■ Untimely or Moot
 ■ Other Disposition

Treatment	Absolute	Percent
Denied	386	81.09%
Granted Reargument	17	3.57%
Granted Panel Reconsideration	23	4.83%
Untimely or Moot	33	6.93%
Other Disposition	15	3.15%
Withdrawn	2	0.42%
TOTAL	476	100%



Supreme Court Treatment of Petitions for Allowance of Appeal from Superior Court Decisions in 2019

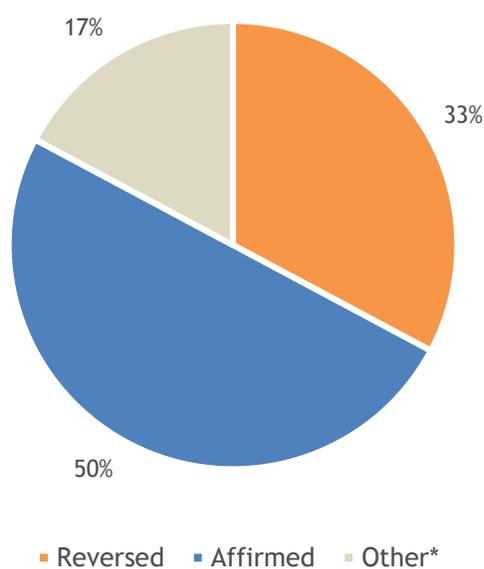


Petitions for Allowance of Appeal	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Granted	38	40	56	51	59
Denied	1,867	1,545	1,519	1,523	1,539
Voided	7	6	6	2	5
Other Disposition*	45	111	43	54	70
Open	405	584	574	639	733
Total	1,895	1,704	1,655	1,710	1,738

* In 2019, this category included 22 limited grants, 27 vacated, 15 discontinued, 2 administrative closures, 2 reversed/reinstated, 1 withdrawn, and 1 reversed.



Supreme Court Disposition of Allowed Appeals from Superior Court Decisions in 2019

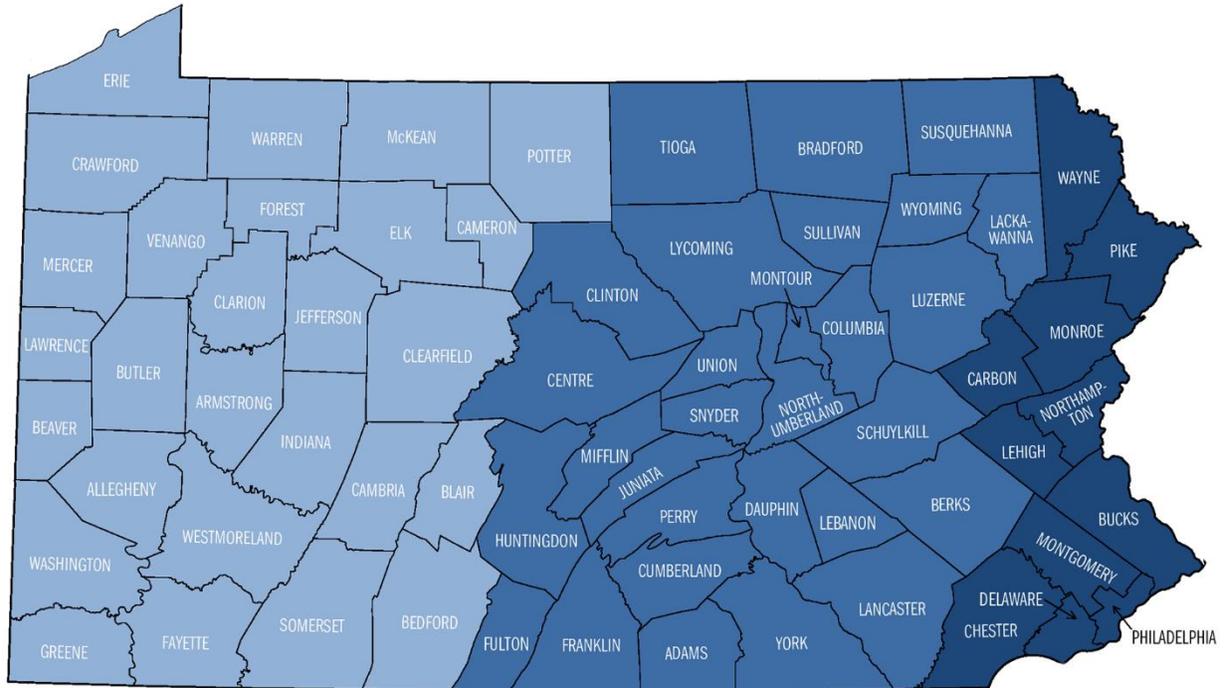


Disposition	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Reversed	36	13	20	17	21
Affirmed	18	13	19	20	32
Other *	30	24	21	24	11
TOTAL	84	50	60	61	64

* 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

