



2020

ANNUAL REPORT OF STATISTICS
SUPERIOR COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

May 31, 2021



JUDGES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

President Judge Jack A. Panella
President Judge Emeritus John T. Bender
Judge Mary Jane Bowes
Judge Jacqueline O. Shogan
Judge Anne E. Lazarus
Judge Judith Ference Olson
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 Megan King
Judge Daniel McCaffery
Judge John L. Musmanno
President Judge Emeritus Kate Ford Elliott
President Judge Emeritus Susan Peikes Gantman
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

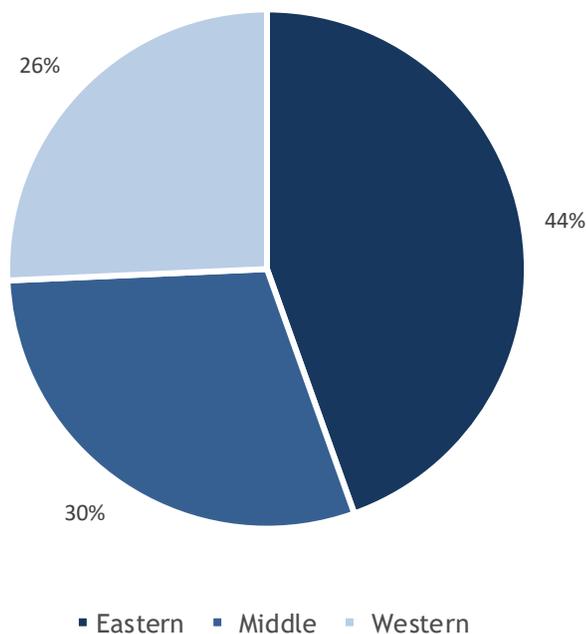
Philip H. Yoon, Esquire
Chief Staff Attorney

James R. Gilmore, Esquire
Reporter

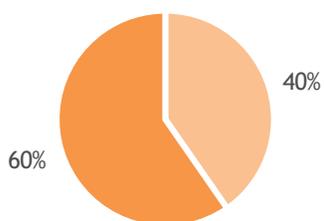
Peter F. Johnson, Esquire
Legal Systems Coordinator



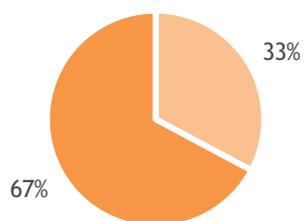
Appeals by District in 2020



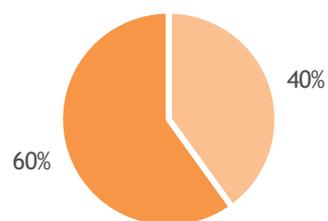
Eastern District



Middle District



Western District

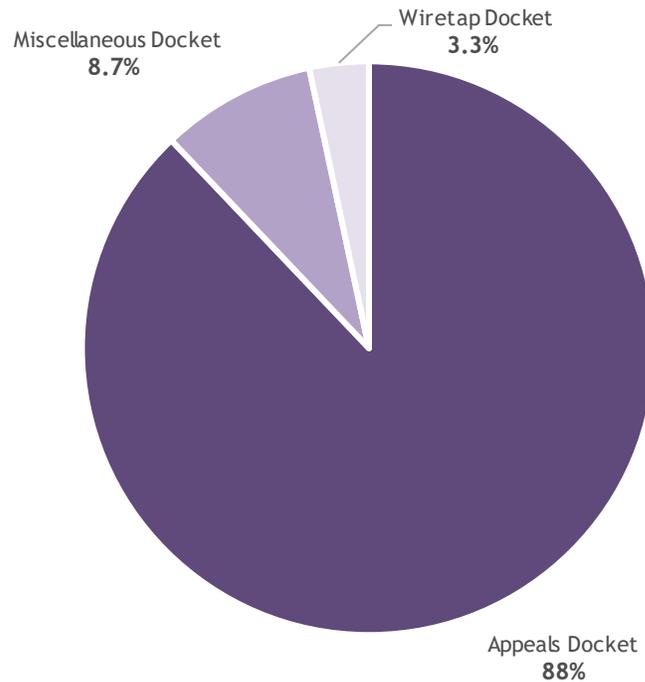


● Civil ● Criminal

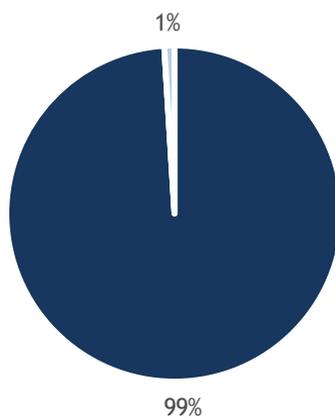
	Civil	Criminal	Total
Eastern	947	1,417	2,364
Middle	518	1,061	1,579
Western	550	814	1,364
Total	2,015	3,292	5,307



Cases by Docket Type in 2020

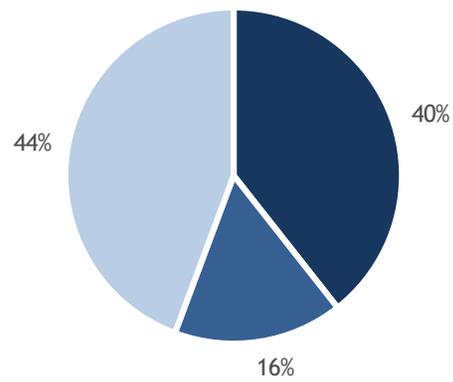


Wiretap Docket by Docketing District in 2020



■ Eastern ■ Western

Miscellaneous Docket by District in 2020*



■ Eastern ■ Middle ■ Western

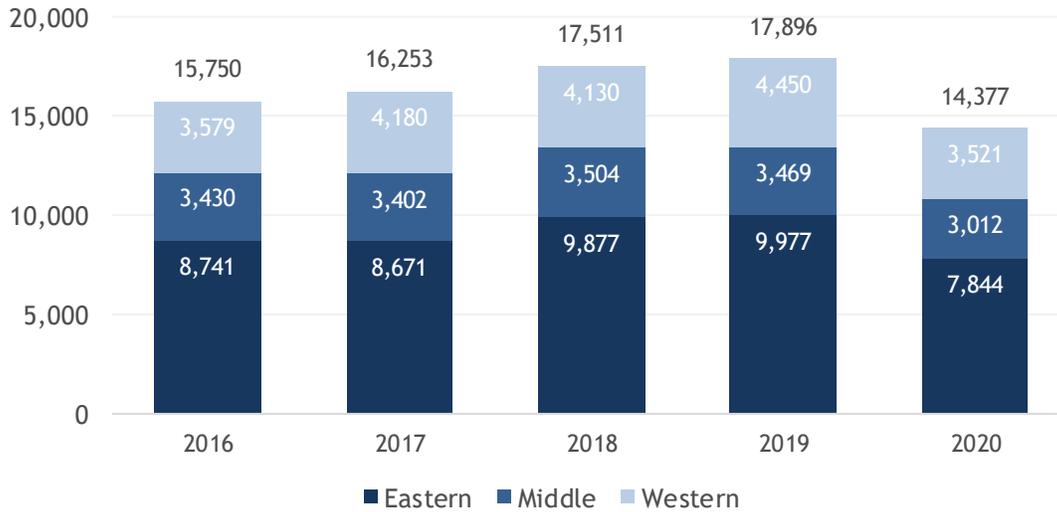
	Miscellaneous Docket	Wiretap Docket	Appeals Docket	Total
Eastern	208	202	2,364	2,774
Middle	86	†	1,579	1,665
Western	234	2	1,364	1,600
Total	528	204	5,307	6,039

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

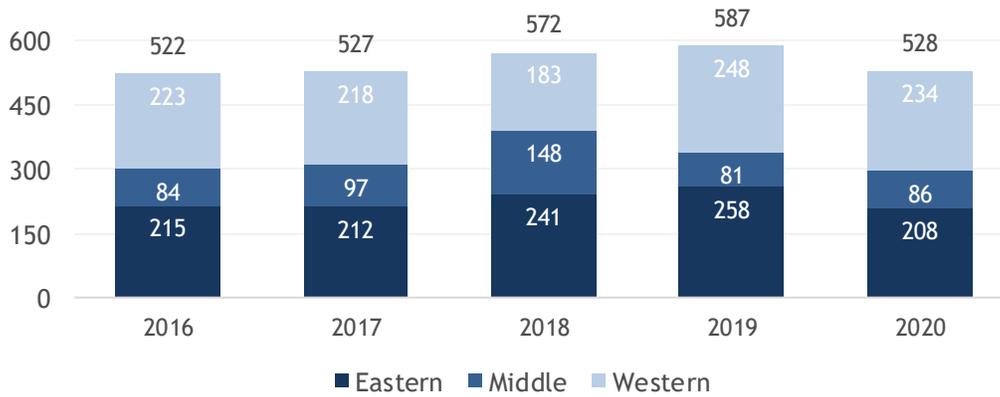
† Middle District wiretap applications are maintained in the Eastern District office.



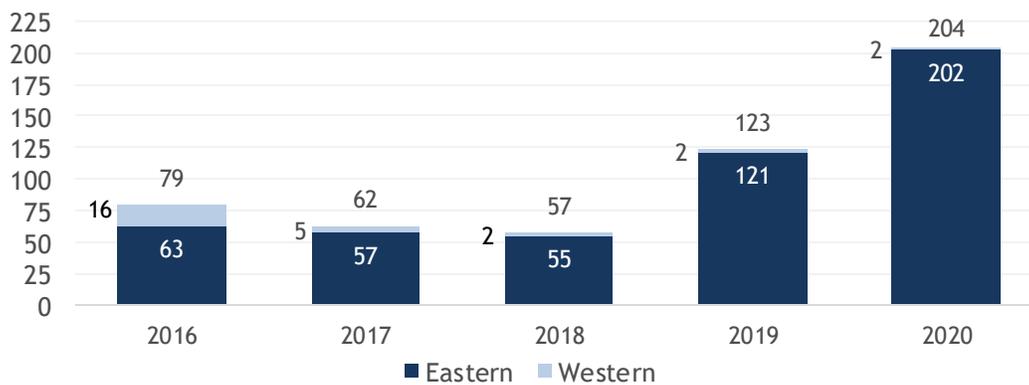
Appeals Docket Applications (Applications related to active docketed appeals)



Miscellaneous Docket Applications (Applications unrelated to active docketed appeals)



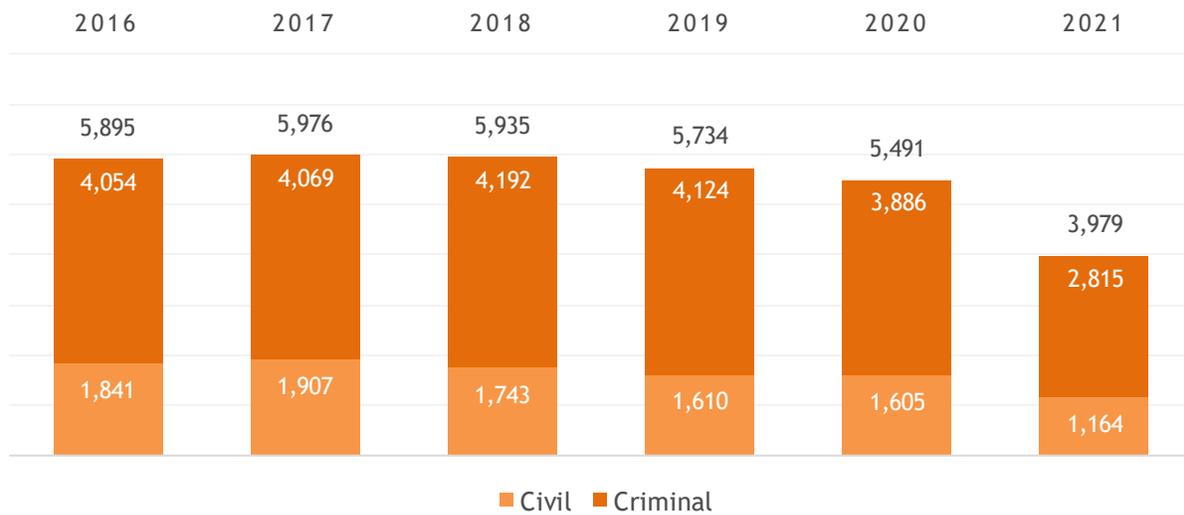
Wiretap Applications by Docketing District



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



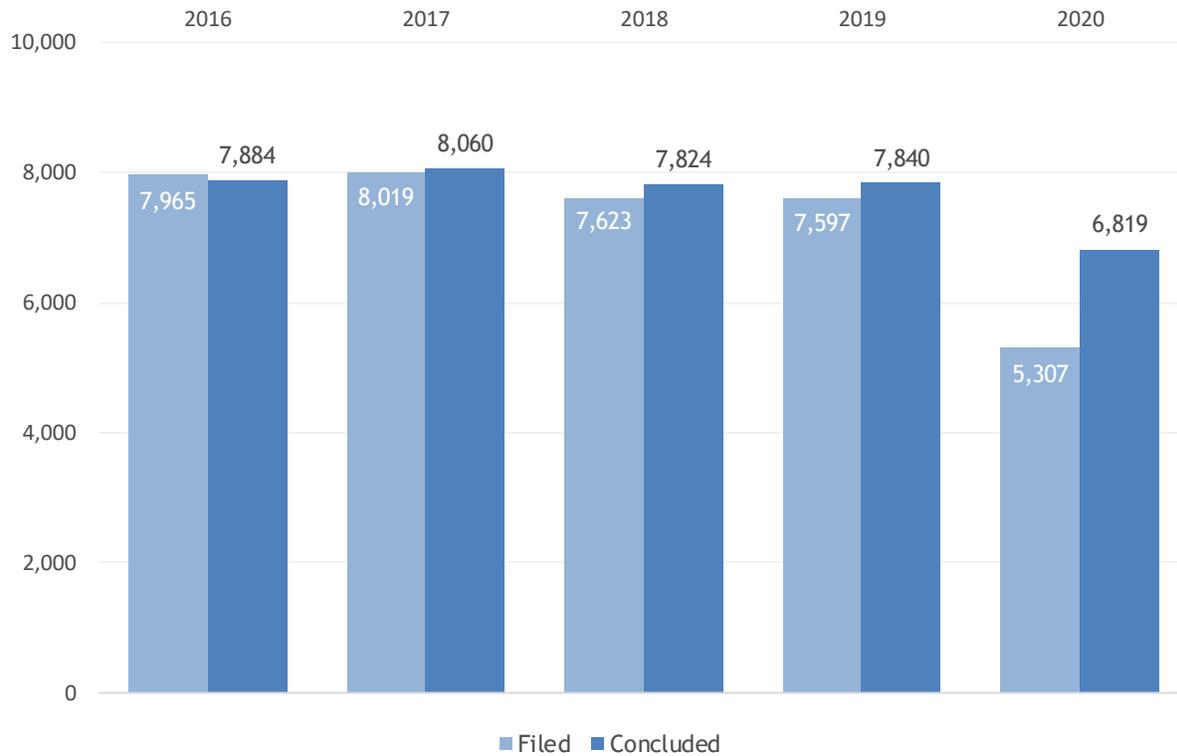
Appeals Pending as of January 1



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Civil Appeals Pending 1/1	1,841	1,907	1,743	1,610	1,605	1,164
Criminal Appeals Pending 1/1	4,054	4,069	4,192	4,124	3,886	2,815
Total	5,895	5,976	5,935	5,734	5,491	3,979
Civil Appeals Pending 12/31	1,907	1,743	1,610	1,605	1,164	N/A
Criminal Appeals Pending 12/31	4,069	4,192	4,124	3,886	2,815	N/A
Total	5,976	5,935	5,734	5,491	3,979	N/A



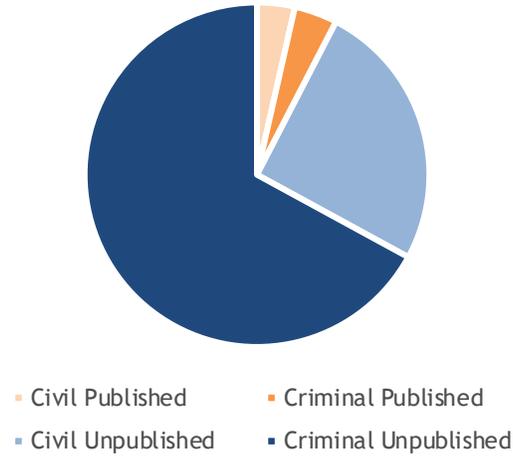
Appeals Filed and Concluded



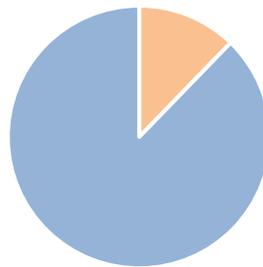
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Civil Appeals Filed	3,183	3,136	2,909	2,939	2,014
Criminal Appeals Filed	4,782	4,883	4,714	4,658	3,293
Total	7,965	8,019	7,623	7,597	5,307
Civil Appeals Concluded	3,117	3,300	3,042	2,944	2,455
Criminal Appeals Concluded	4,767	4,760	4,782	4,896	4,364
Total	7,884	8,060	7,824	7,840	6,819



Publication in 2020

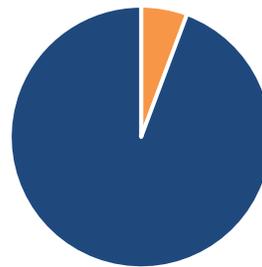


Civil Publication in 2020



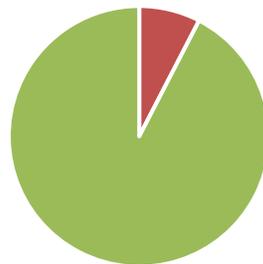
Published - 12%
Unpublished - 88%

Criminal Publication in 2020



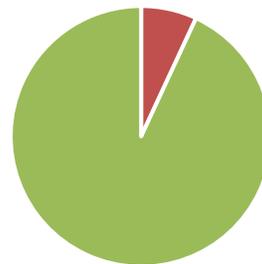
Published - 6%
Unpublished - 94%

Total Publication in 2020



Total Published - 8%
Total Unpublished - 92%

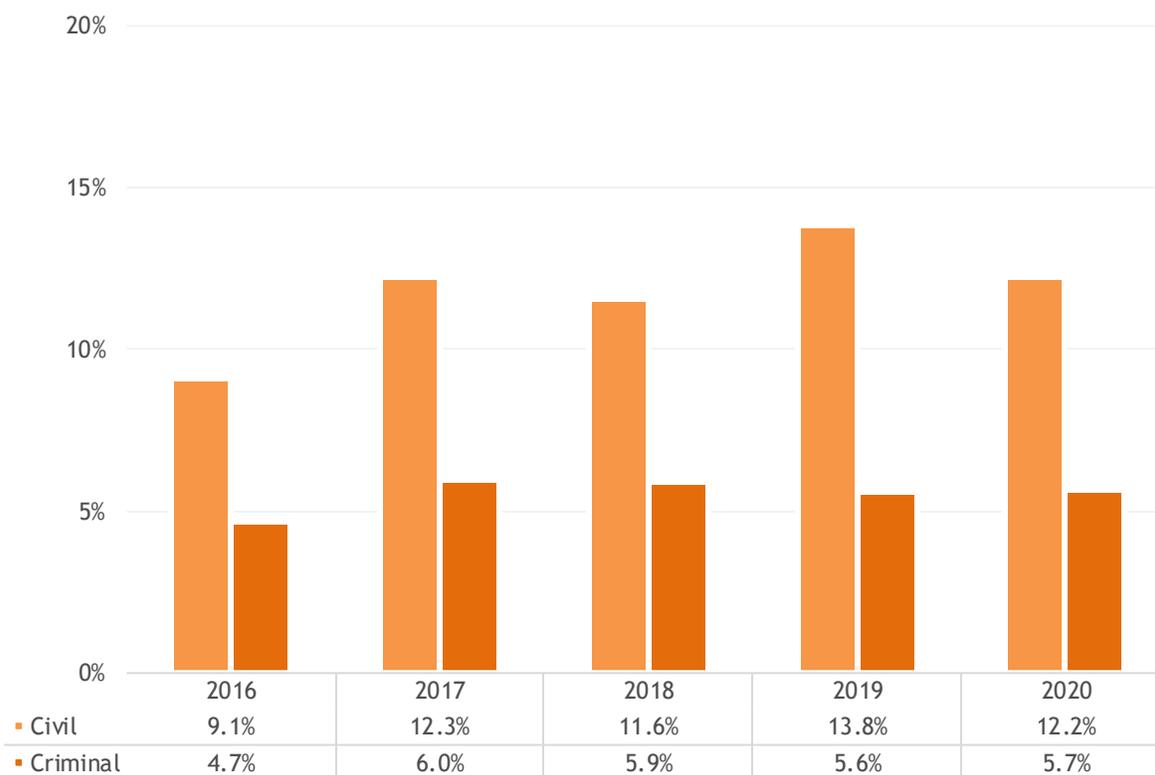
Average Since 2016



Average Published - 7%
Average Unpublished - 93%



Share of Published Decisions among Filed Decisions

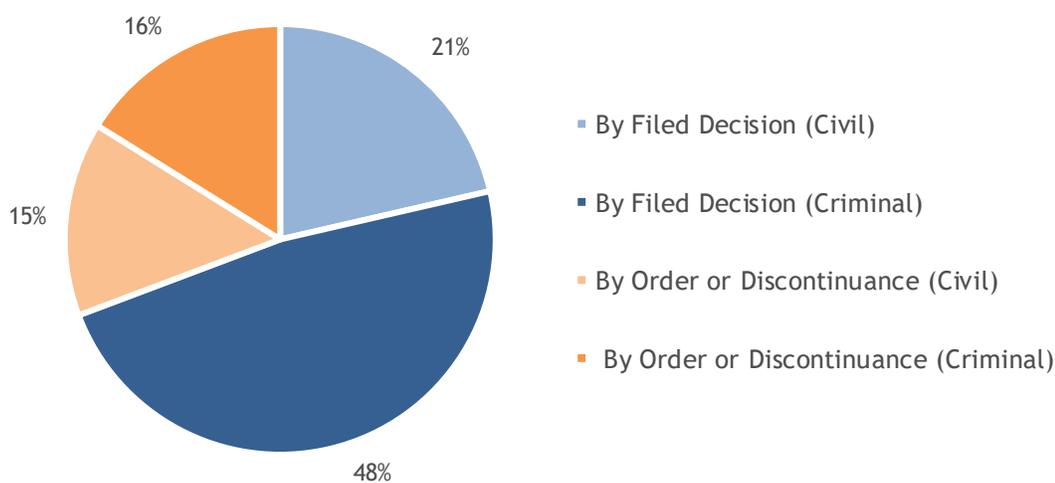


	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Civil Published	149	217	159	179	140
Criminal Published	162	201	202	191	160
Total Published	311	418	361	370	300
Civil Unpublished	1,486	1,553	1,213	1,116	1,003
Criminal Unpublished	3,292	3,154	3,229	3,227	2,652
Total Unpublished	4,778	4,707	4,442	4,343	3,655
Total Filed Decisions *	5,089	5,125	4,803	4,713	3,955

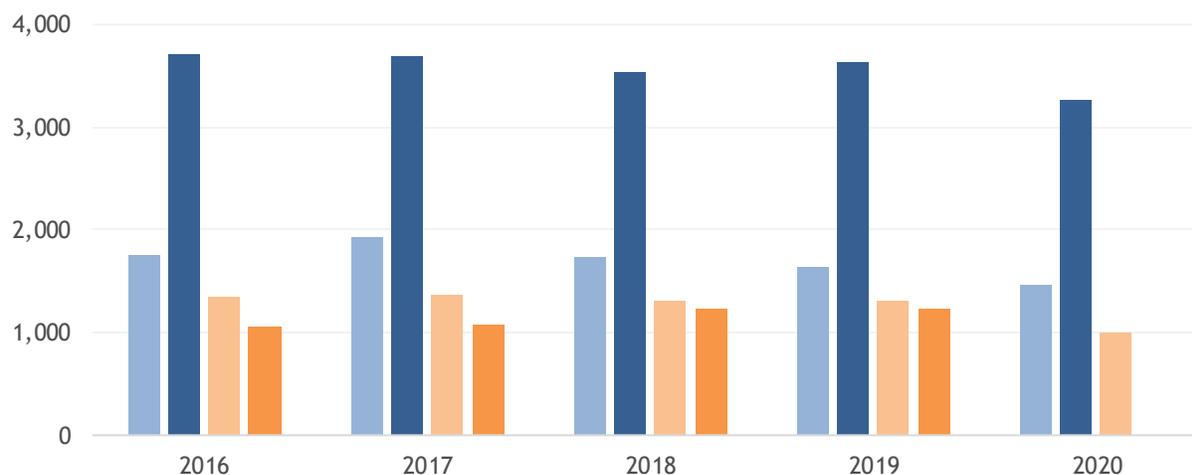
* The total of filed decisions was calculated by totaling this Court's published opinions, opinions *per curiam*, memorandum decisions, and judgment orders.



Dispositions by Type in 2020



Number of Dispositions per Year by Type

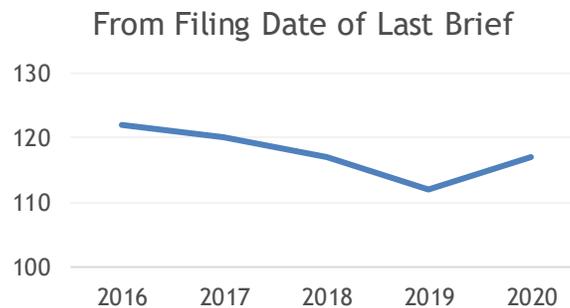
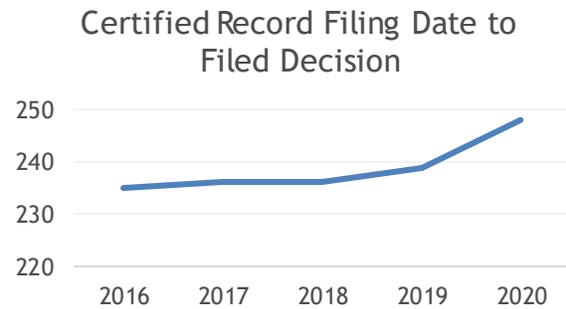
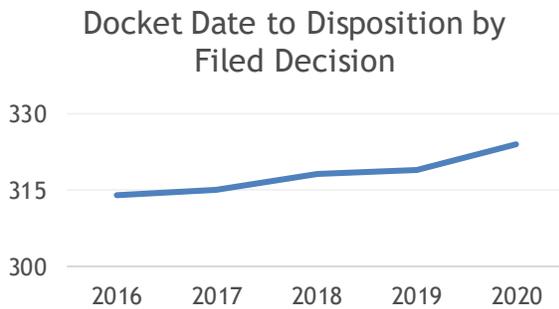
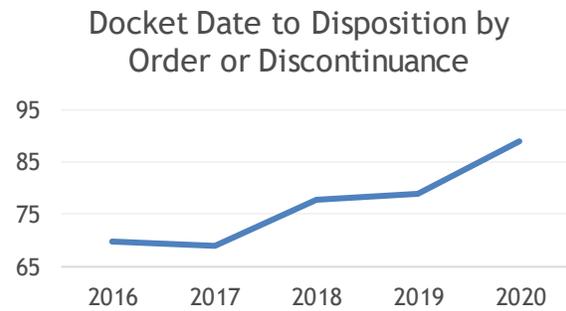
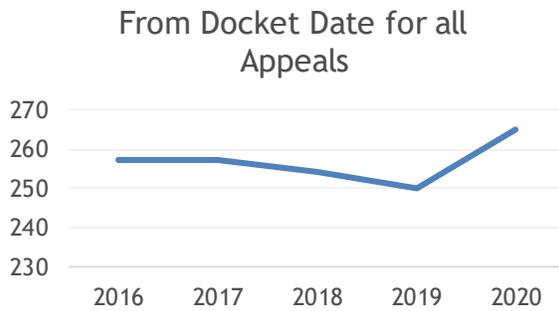
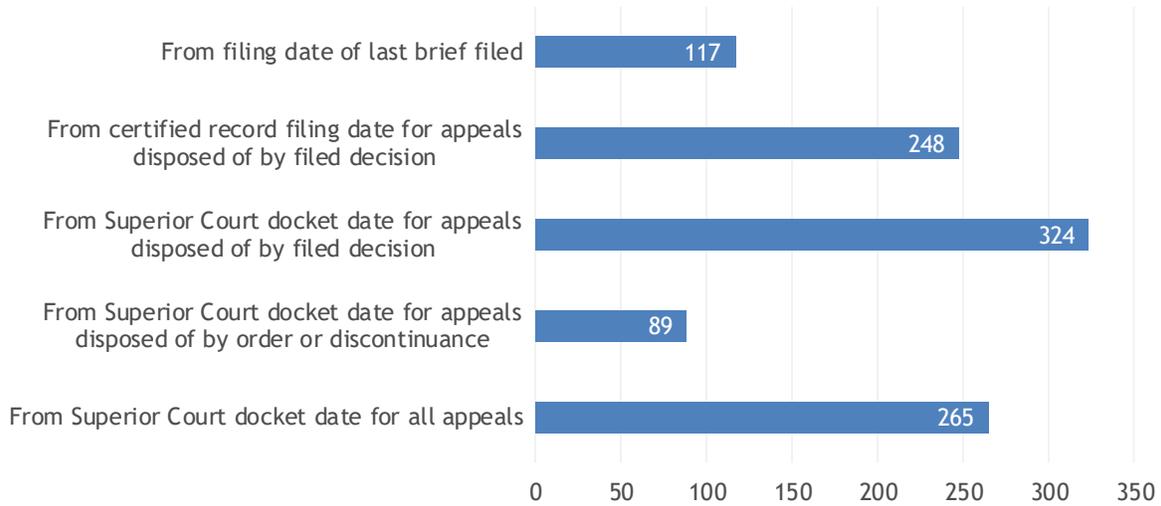


	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Filed Decision (Civil) ●	1,762	1,925	1,729	1,646	1,459
Filed Decision (Criminal) ●	3,704	3,685	3,546	3,644	3,264
Filed Decision Total *	5,466	5,610	5,275	5,290	4,723
Order or Discontinuance (Civil) ●	1,355	1,375	1,313	1,314	996
Order or Discontinuance (Criminal) ●	1,063	1,075	1,236	1,236	1,100
Order or Discontinuance Total	2,418	2,450	2,549	2,550	2,096
All Dispositions	7,884	8,060	7,824	7,840	6,819

* 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.

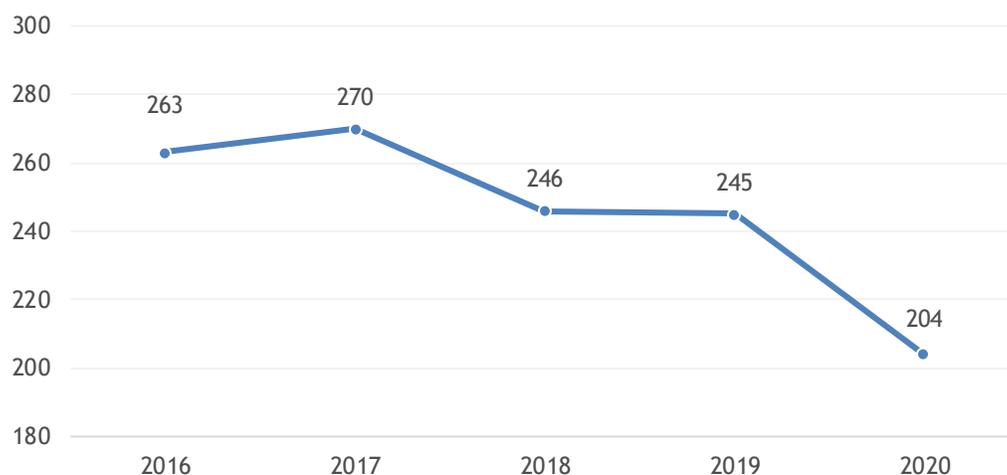


Median Number of Days to Disposition for Appeals Concluded in 2020





Filed Decisions per Judge per Year

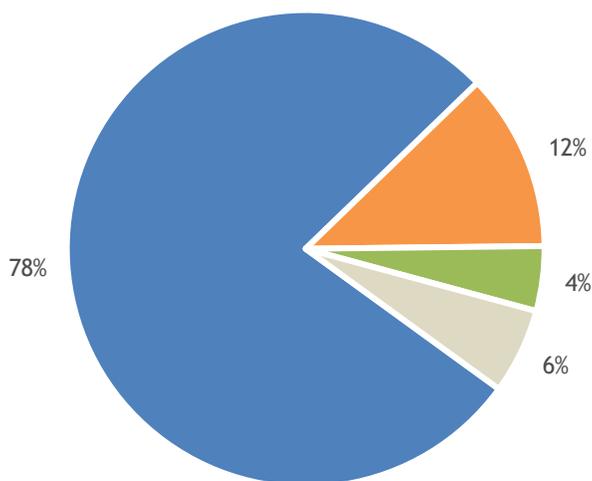


Number of Appeals by County

Adams	28	Clinton	17	Lackawanna	86	Pike	24
Allegheny	425	Columbia	37	Lancaster	150	Potter	10
Armstrong	31	Crawford	20	Lawrence	29	Schuylkill	45
Beaver	36	Cumberland	62	Lebanon	52	Snyder	9
Bedford	13	Dauphin	172	Lehigh	119	Somerset	18
Berks	142	Delaware	198	Luzerne	153	Sullivan	3
Blair	63	Elk	13	Lycoming	66	Susquehanna	15
Bradford	39	Erie	119	McKean	34	Tioga	15
Bucks	157	Fayette	57	Mercer	51	Union	21
Butler	56	Forest	3	Mifflin	23	Venango	29
Cambria	65	Franklin	57	Monroe	83	Warren	18
Cameron	4	Fulton	12	Montgomery	254	Washington	78
Carbon	13	Greene	20	Montour	3	Wayne	18
Centre	76	Huntingdon	43	Northampton	91	Westmoreland	67
Chester	149	Indiana	8	Northumberland	25	Wyoming	9
Clarion	14	Jefferson	58	Perry	7	York	207
Clearfield	25	Juniata	5	Philadelphia	1,258	TOTAL	5,307



Action by Superior Court in Filed Decisions in 2020

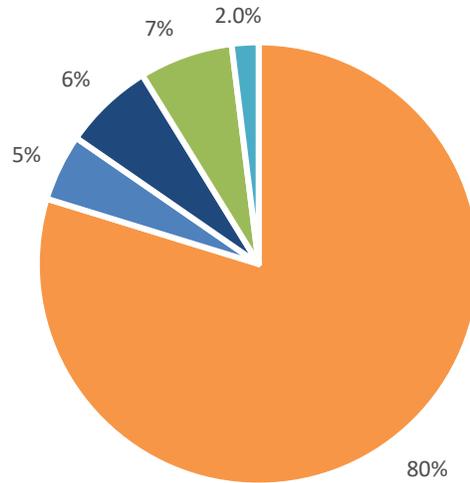


■ Affirmed
 ■ Reversed
 ■ Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part
 ■ Quashed, Dismissed, or Transferred

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Affirmed (Published)	191	212	214	262	192
Affirmed (Unpublished)	4,123	4,154	3,872	3,805	3,459
Affirmed Total	4,314	4,366	4,086	4,067	3,651
Reversed (Published)	102	168	162	116	117
Reversed (Unpublished)	614	537	503	502	449
Reversed Total	716	705	665	618	566
Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part (Published)	36	62	46	44	33
Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part (Unpublished)	159	211	251	206	173
Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part Total	195	273	297	250	206
Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred (Published)	19	17	10	19	7
Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred (Unpublished)	212	233	204	311	265
Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred Total	231	250	214	330	272
Other (Published)	2	5	0	2	0
Other (Unpublished)	8	11	13	23	28
Other Total	10	16	13	25	28



Applications for Reconsideration or Reargument in 2020

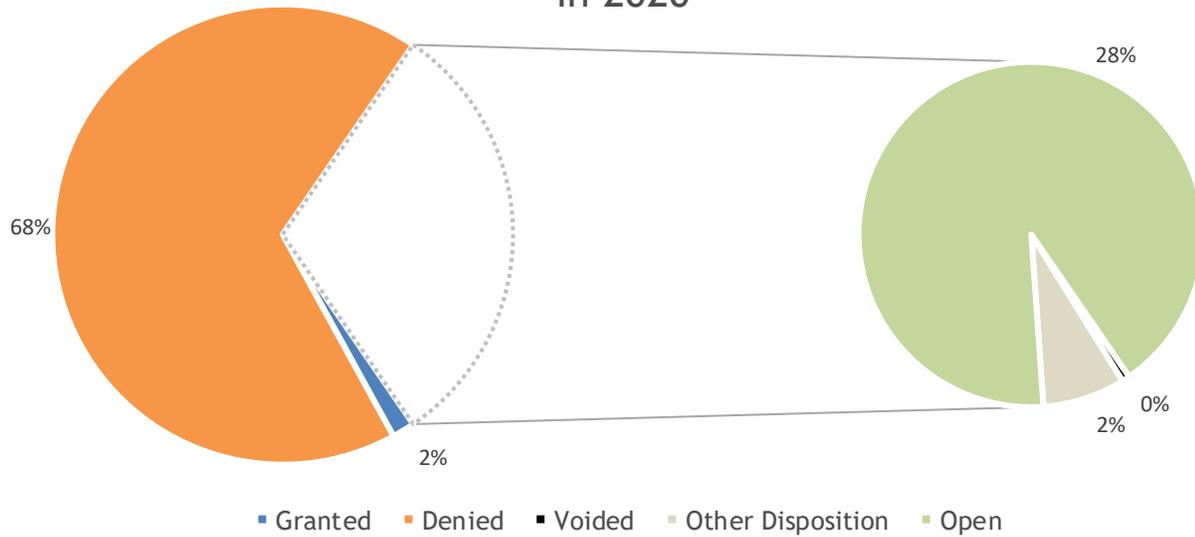


■ Denied
 ■ Granted Reargument
 ■ Granted Panel Reconsideration
 ■ Untimely or Moot
 ■ Other Disposition

Treatment	Absolute	Percent
Denied	327	79.76%
Granted Reargument	20	4.88%
Granted Panel Reconsideration	27	6.59%
Untimely or Moot	28	6.83%
Other Disposition	8	1.95%
Withdrawn	0	0%
TOTAL	410	100%



Supreme Court Treatment of Petitions for Allowance of Appeal from Superior Court Decisions in 2020

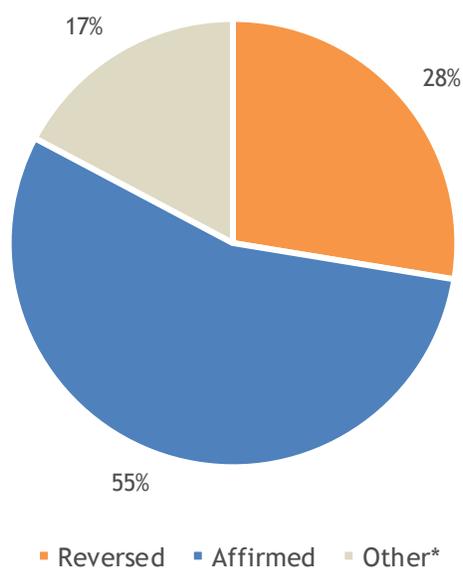


Petitions for Allowance of Appeal	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Granted	40	56	51	59	35
Denied	1,545	1,519	1,523	1,539	1,476
Voided	6	6	2	5	5
Other Disposition*	111	43	54	70	52
Open	584	574	639	733	616
Total Allocatur Petitions Filed	1,704	1,655	1,710	1,738	1,448

* In 2020, this category included 18 limited grants, 13 vacated, 19 discontinued, and 2 reversed.



Supreme Court Disposition of Allowed Appeals from Superior Court Decisions in 2020

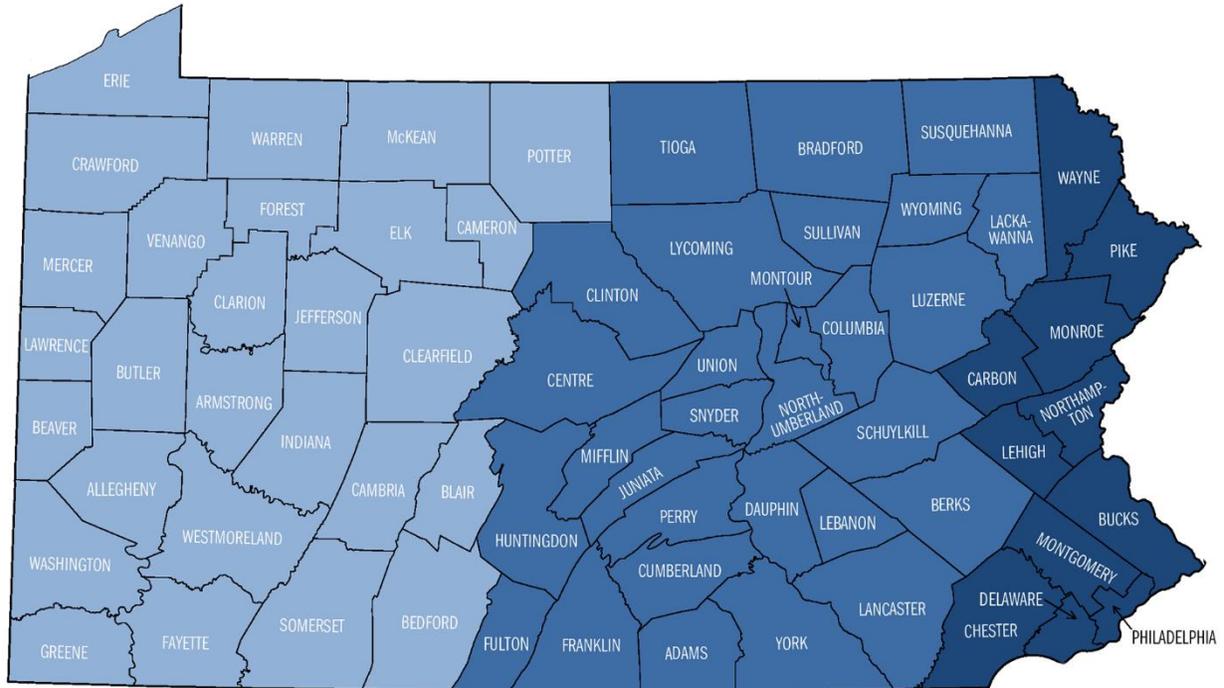


Disposition	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Reversed	13	20	17	21	24
Affirmed	13	19	20	32	48
Other *	24	21	24	11	15
TOTAL	50	60	61	64	87

* 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

