



2021

ANNUAL REPORT OF STATISTICS
SUPERIOR COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

May 2022



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 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

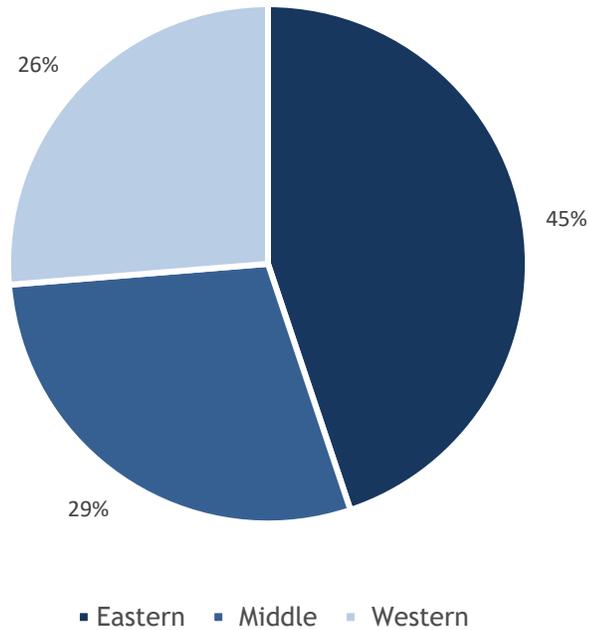
Philip H. Yoon, Esquire
Chief Staff Attorney

James R. Gilmore, Esquire
Reporter

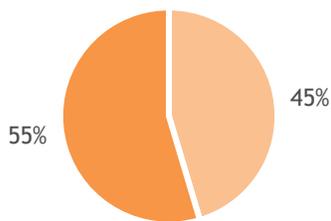
Peter F. Johnson, Esquire
Legal Systems Coordinator



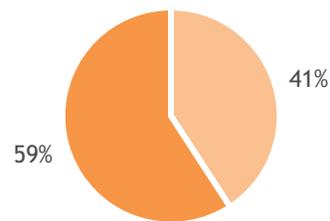
Appeals by District in 2021



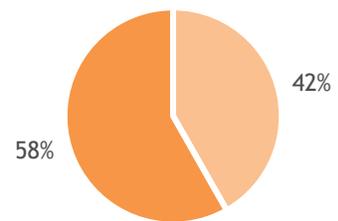
Eastern District



Middle District



Western District

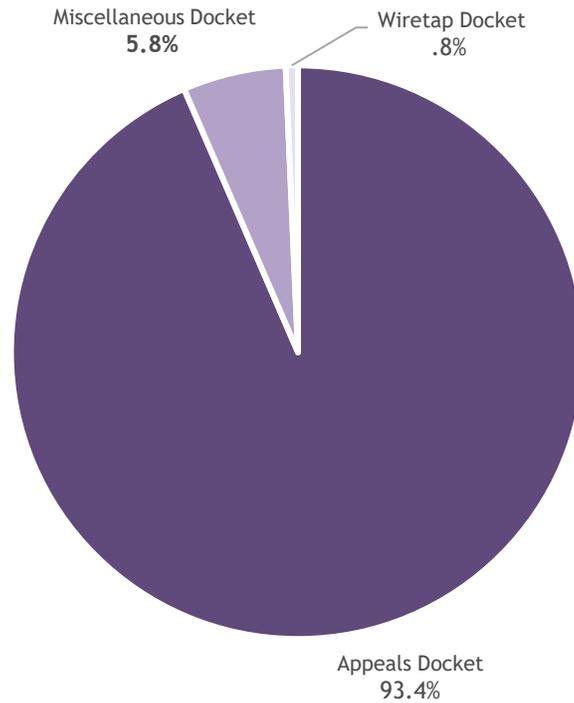


● Civil ● Criminal

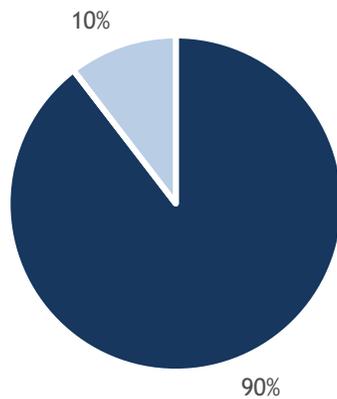
	Civil	Criminal	Total
Eastern	1,196	1,439	2,635
Middle	692	1,003	1,695
Western	645	899	1,544
Total	2,533	3,441	5,874



Cases by Docket Type in 2021

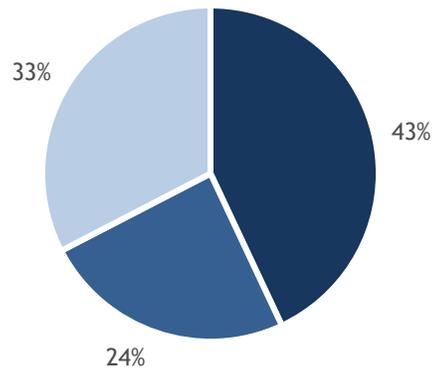


Wiretap Docket by Docketing District in 2021



■ Eastern ■ Western

Miscellaneous Docket by District in 2021*



■ Eastern ■ Middle ■ Western

	Miscellaneous Docket	Wiretap Docket	Appeals Docket	Total
Eastern	157	43	2,635	2,835
Middle	89	†	1,695	1,784
Western	119	5	1,544	1,668
Total	365	48	5,874	6,287

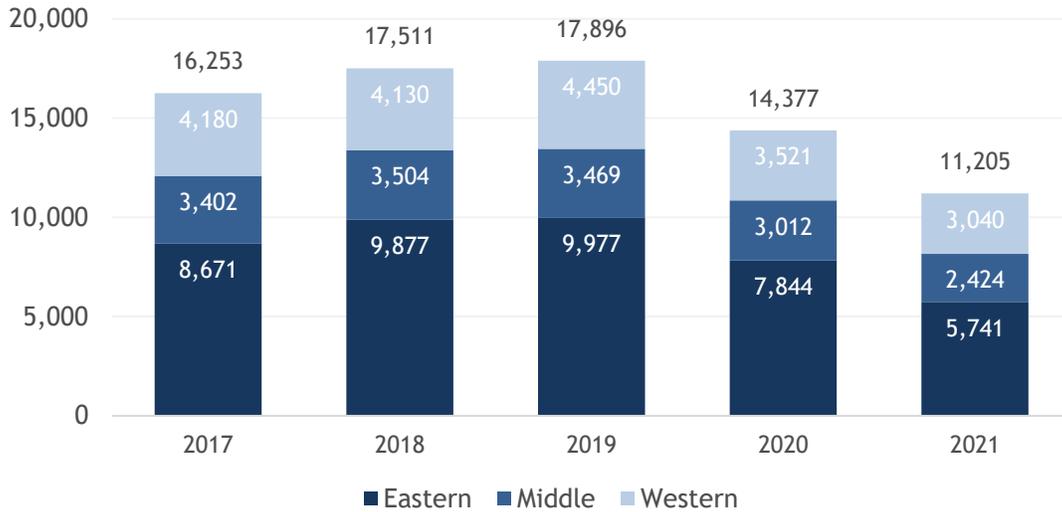
* Miscellaneous dockets are comprised of filings unrelated to active docketed appeals, such as Petitions for Permission to Appeal.

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



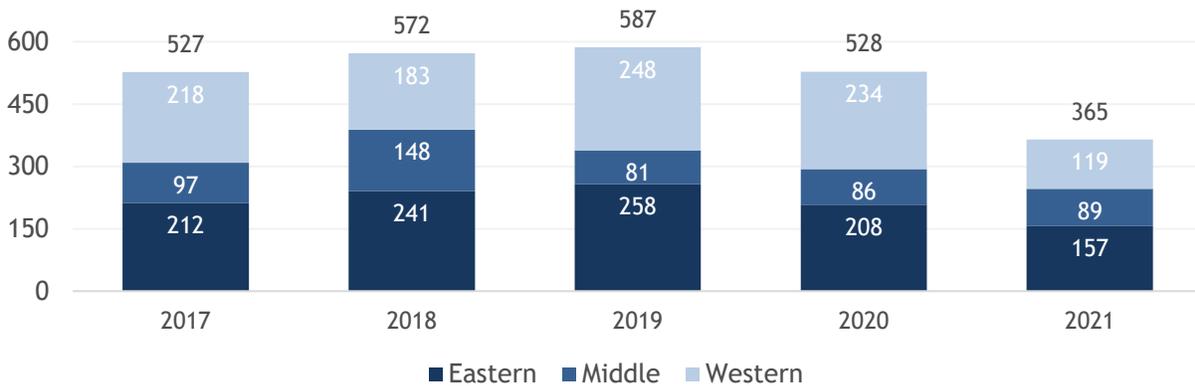
Appeals Docket Applications

(Applications related to active docketed appeals)

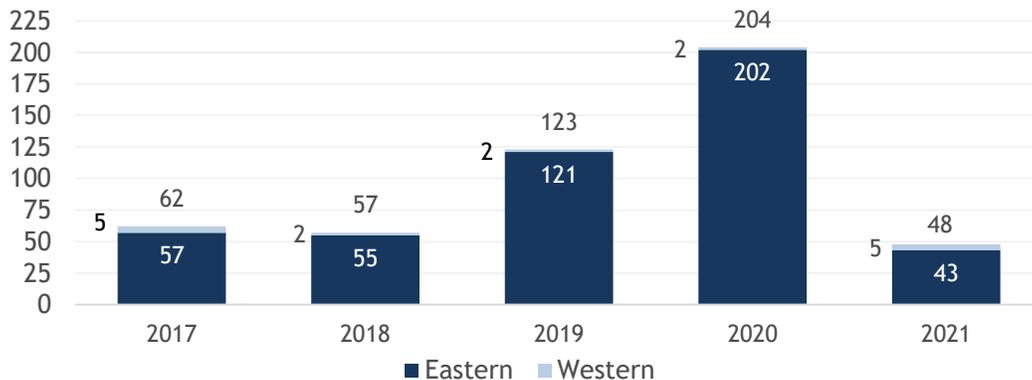


Miscellaneous Docket Applications

(Applications unrelated to active docketed appeals)



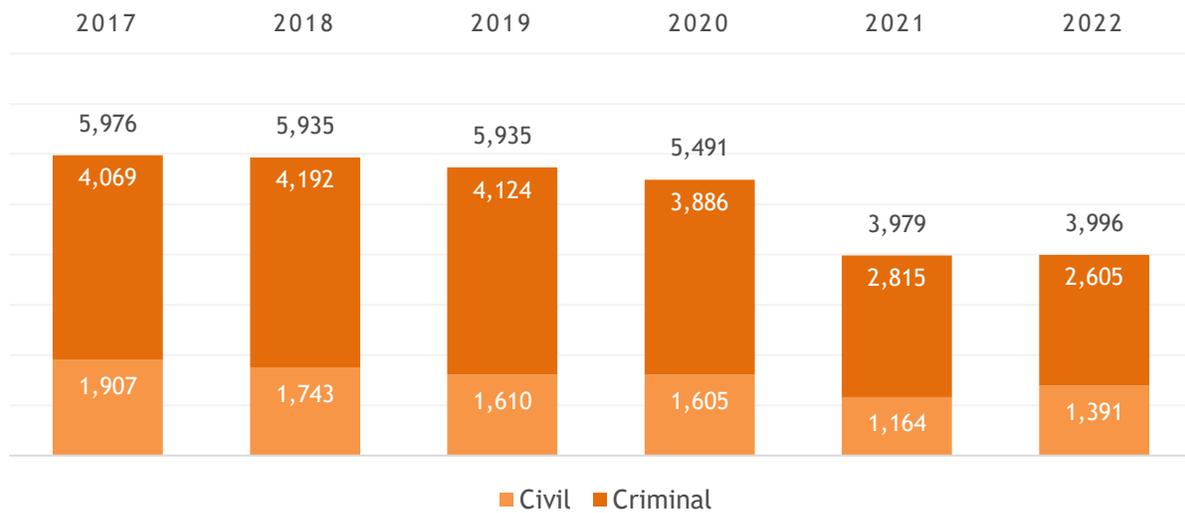
Wiretap Applications by Docketing District



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



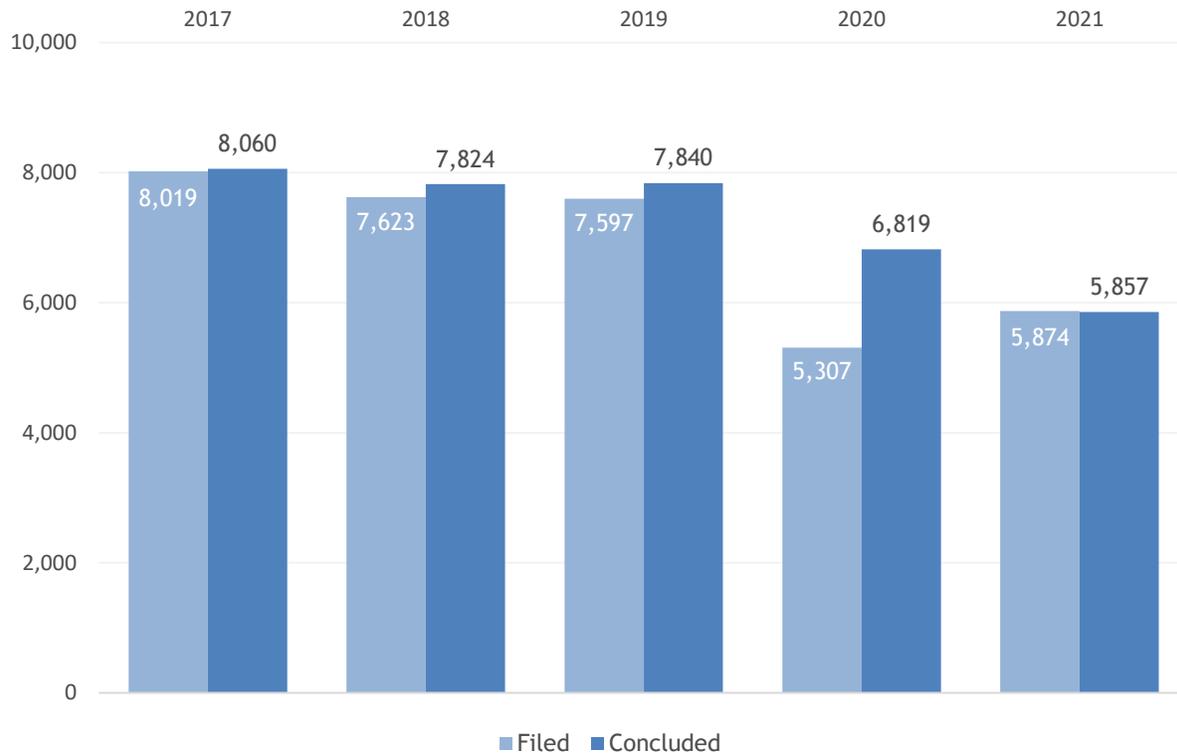
Appeals Pending as of January 1



	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Civil Appeals Pending 1/1	1,907	1,743	1,610	1,605	1,164	1,391
Criminal Appeals Pending 1/1	4,069	4,192	4,124	3,886	2,815	2,605
Total	5,976	5,935	5,734	5,491	3,979	3,996
Civil Appeals Pending 12/31	1,743	1,610	1,605	1,164	1,391	N/A
Criminal Appeals Pending 12/31	4,192	4,124	3,886	2,815	2,605	N/A
Total	5,935	5,734	5,491	3,979	3,996	N/A



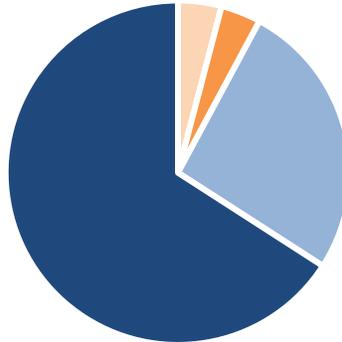
Appeals Filed and Concluded



	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Civil Appeals Filed	3,136	2,909	2,939	2,014	2,533
Criminal Appeals Filed	4,883	4,714	4,658	3,293	3,341
Total	8,019	7,623	7,597	5,307	5,874
Civil Appeals Concluded	3,300	3,042	2,944	2,455	2,306
Criminal Appeals Concluded	4,760	4,782	4,896	4,364	3,551
Total	8,060	7,824	7,840	6,819	5,857

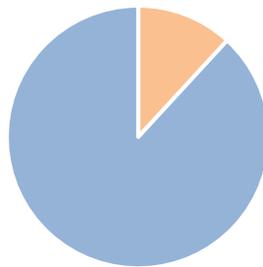


Decisions in 2021



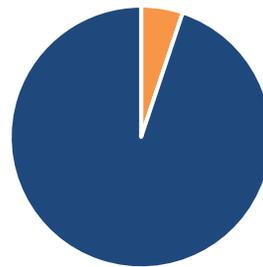
- Civil Precedential
- Criminal Precedential
- Civil Non-Precedential
- Criminal Non-Precedential

Civil Decisions in 2021



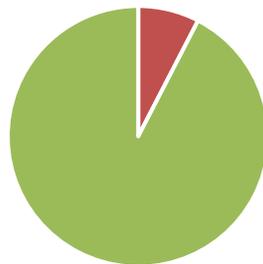
- Precedential - 13%
- Non-Precedential - 87%

Criminal Decisions in 2021



- Precedential - 5%
- Non-Precedential - 95%

Total Decisions in 2021



- Total Precedential - 8%
- Total Non-Precedential - 92%

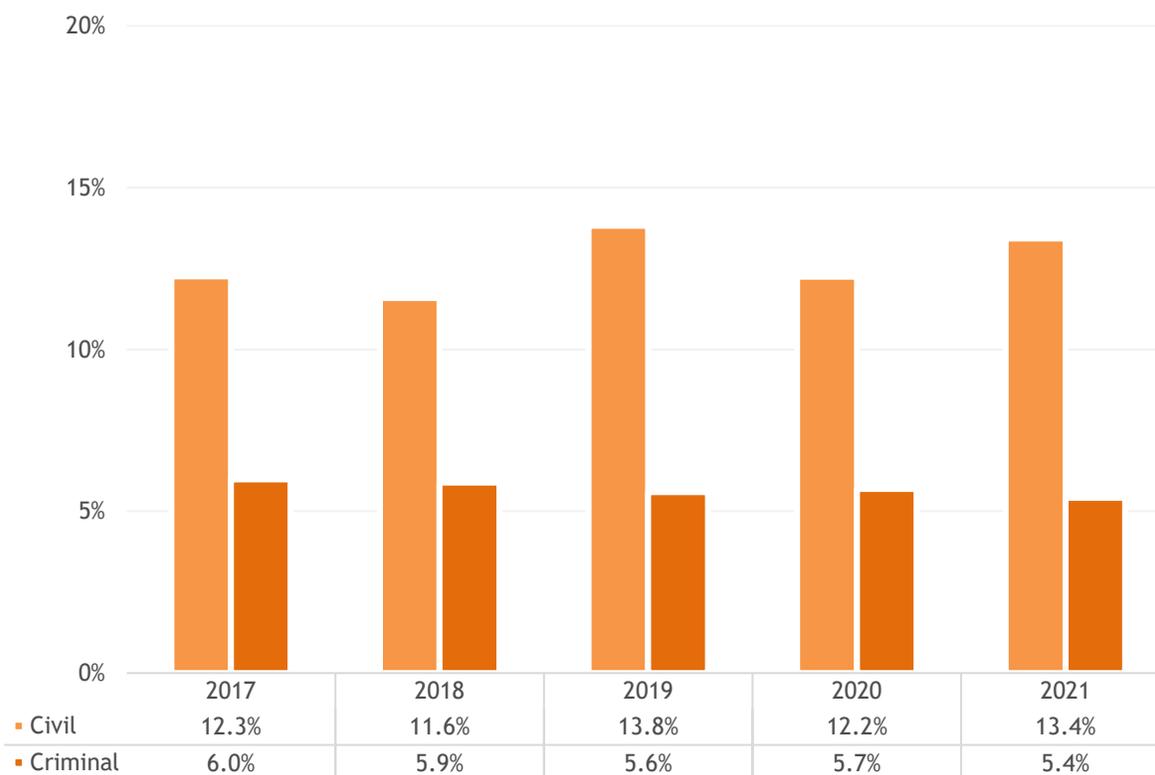
Average Since 2017



- Average Precedential - 8%
- Average Non-Precedential - 92%



Share of Published Decisions among Filed Decisions

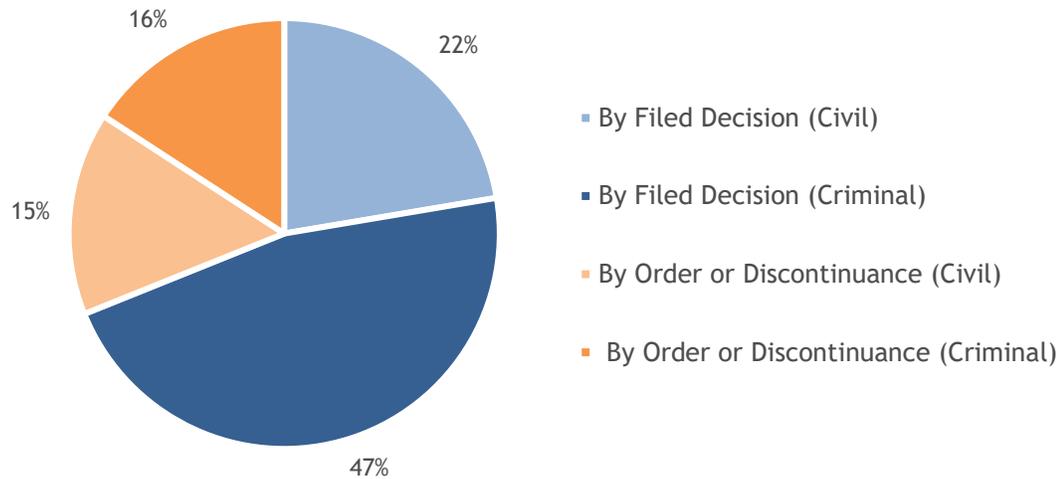


	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Civil Precedential	217	159	179	140	133
Criminal Precedential	201	202	191	160	123
Total Precedential	418	361	370	300	256
Civil Non-Precedential	1,553	1,213	1,116	1,003	857
Criminal Non-Precedential	3,154	3,229	3,227	2,652	2,150
Total Non-Precedential	4,707	4,442	4,343	3,655	3,007
Total Filed Decisions *	5,125	4,803	4,713	3,955	3,263

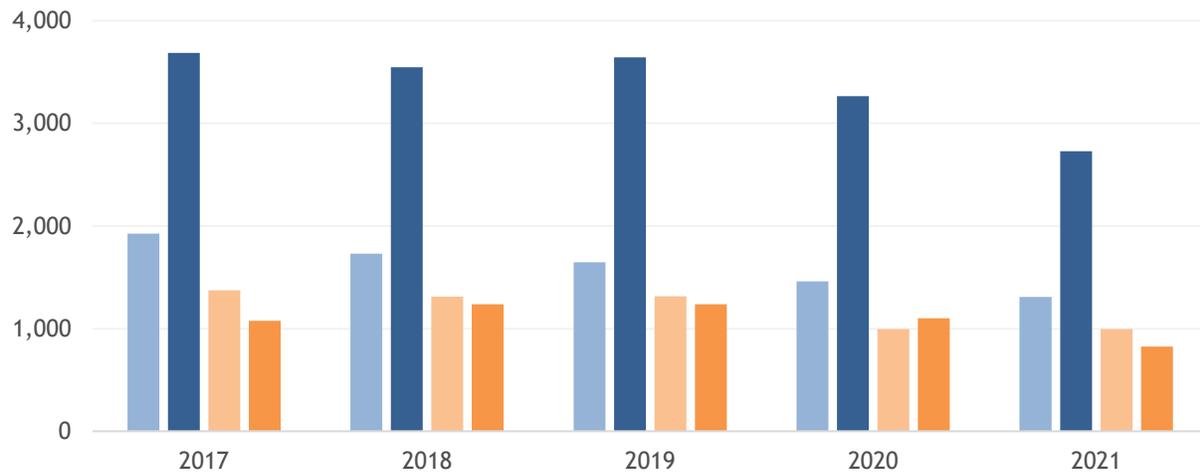
* The total of filed decisions was calculated by totaling this Court's published opinions, opinions *per curiam*, memorandum decisions, and judgment orders.



Dispositions by Type in 2021



Number of Dispositions per Year by Type

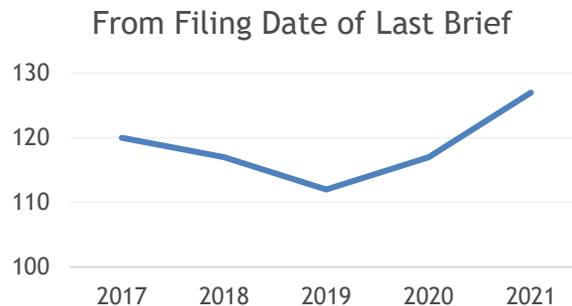
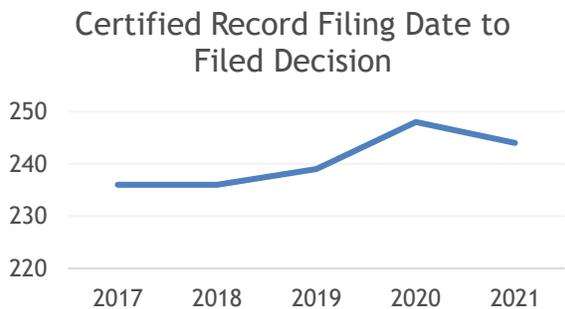
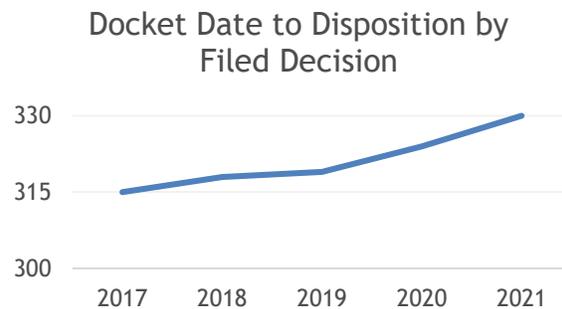
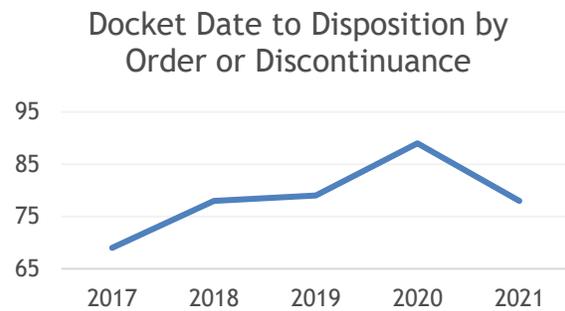
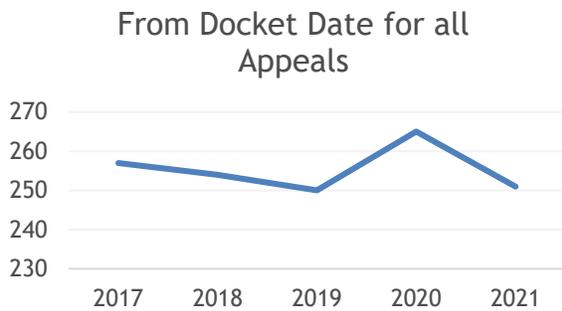
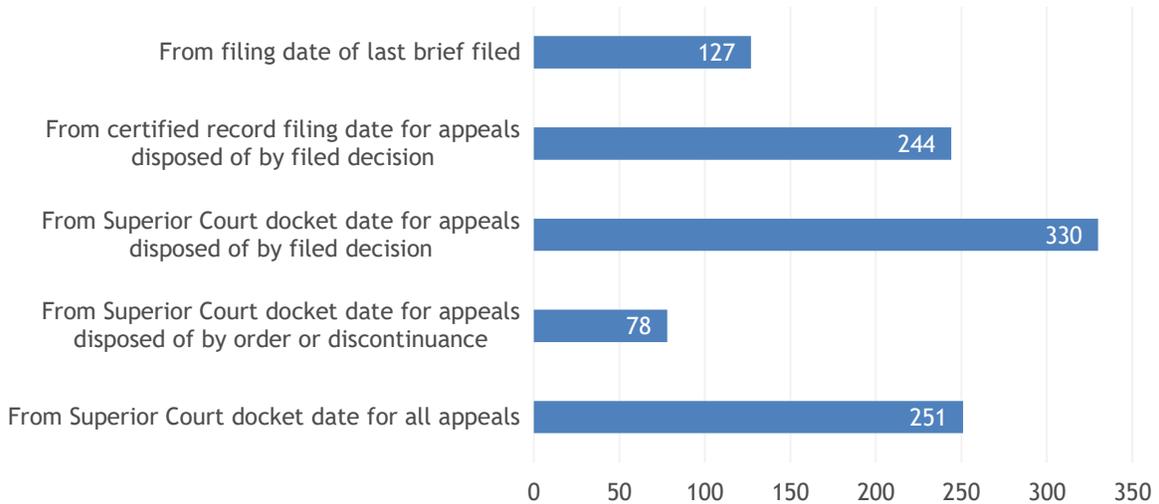


	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Filed Decision (Civil) ●	1,925	1,729	1,646	1,459	1,309
Filed Decision (Criminal) ●	3,685	3,546	3,644	3,264	2,727
Filed Decision Total *	5,610	5,275	5,290	4,723	4,036
Order or Discontinuance (Civil) ●	1,375	1,313	1,314	996	997
Order or Discontinuance (Criminal) ●	1,075	1,236	1,236	1,100	824
Order or Discontinuance Total	2,450	2,549	2,550	2,096	1,821
All Dispositions	8,060	7,824	7,840	6,819	5,857

* 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.

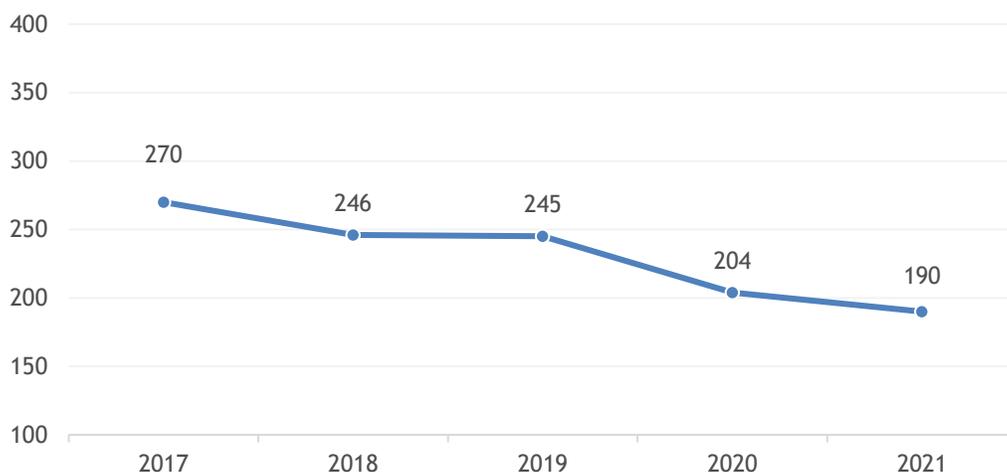


Median Number of Days to Disposition for Appeals Concluded in 2021





Filed Decisions per Judge per Year

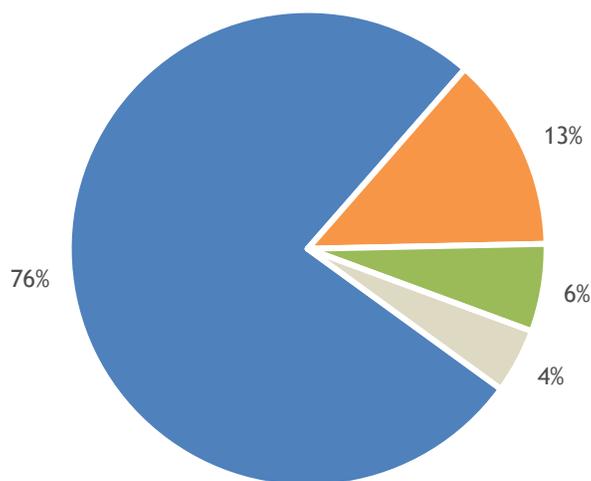


Number of Appeals by County

Adams	46	Clinton	16	Lackawanna	115	Pike	27
Allegheny	563	Columbia	20	Lancaster	138	Potter	7
Armstrong	27	Crawford	21	Lawrence	18	Schuylkill	72
Beaver	55	Cumberland	65	Lebanon	43	Snyder	16
Bedford	19	Dauphin	207	Lehigh	127	Somerset	22
Berks	157	Delaware	173	Luzerne	149	Sullivan	11
Blair	68	Elk	4	Lycoming	49	Susquehanna	35
Bradford	31	Erie	118	McKean	22	Tioga	13
Bucks	193	Fayette	69	Mercer	61	Union	20
Butler	36	Forest	3	Mifflin	27	Venango	26
Cambria	63	Franklin	67	Monroe	86	Warren	29
Cameron	3	Fulton	11	Montgomery	236	Washington	70
Carbon	15	Greene	23	Montour	0	Wayne	32
Centre	49	Huntingdon	40	Northampton	103	Westmoreland	78
Chester	174	Indiana	29	Northumberland	48	Wyoming	22
Clarion	26	Jefferson	56	Perry	13	York	211
Clearfield	28	Juniata	6	Philadelphia	1,467	TOTAL	5,874



Action by Superior Court in Filed Decisions in 2021

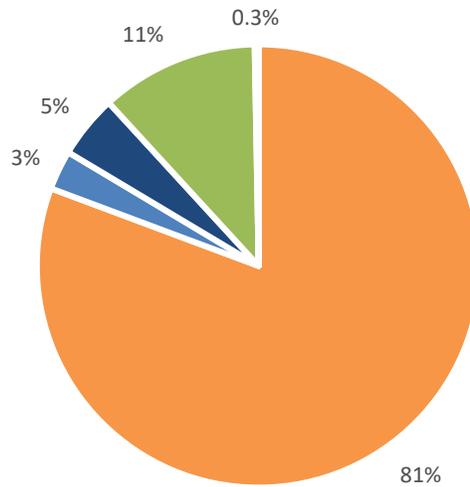


■ Affirmed
 ■ Reversed
 ■ Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part
 ■ Quashed, Dismissed, or Transferred

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Affirmed (Precedential)	212	214	262	192	162
Affirmed (Non-Precedential)	4,154	3,872	3,805	3,459	2,909
Affirmed Total	4,366	4,086	4,067	3,651	3,071
Reversed (Precedential)	168	162	116	117	92
Reversed (Non-Precedential)	537	503	502	449	440
Reversed Total	705	665	618	566	532
Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part (Precedential)	62	46	44	33	47
Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part (Non-Precedential)	211	251	206	173	192
Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part Total	273	297	250	206	239
Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred (Precedential)	17	10	19	7	18
Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred (Non-Precedential)	233	204	311	265	158
Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred Total	250	214	330	272	176
Other (Precedential)	5	0	2	0	0
Other (Non-Precedential)	11	13	23	28	18
Other Total	16	13	25	28	18



Applications for Reconsideration or Reargument in 2021

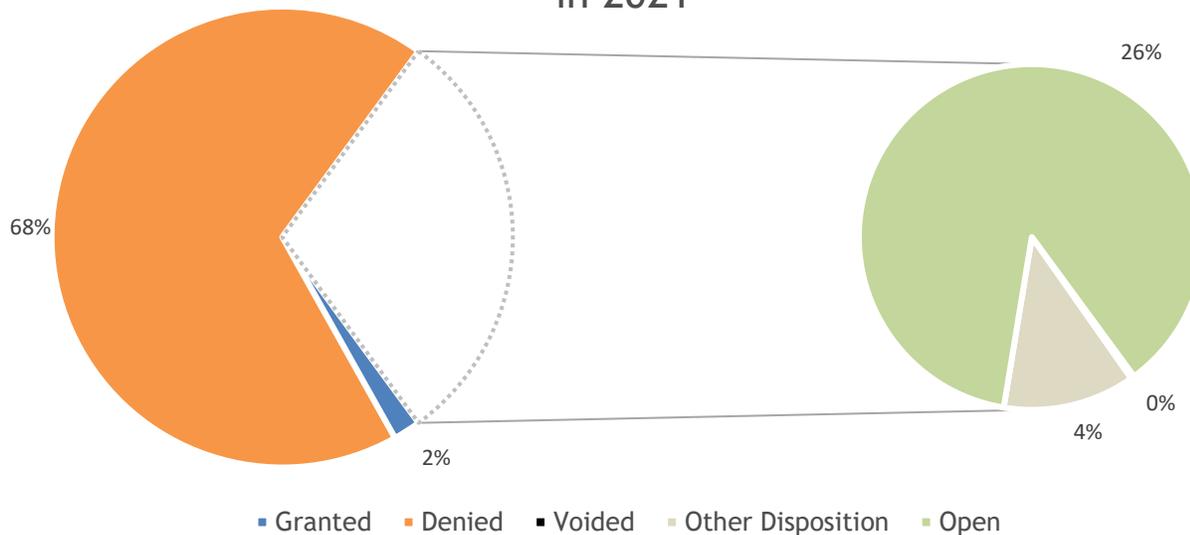


■ Denied
 ■ Granted Reargument
 ■ Granted Panel Reconsideration
 ■ Untimely or Moot
 ■ Other Disposition

Treatment	Count	Percent
Denied	280	80.46%
Granted Reargument	10	2.87%
Granted Panel Reconsideration	16	4.59%
Untimely or Moot	40	11.49%
Other Disposition	1	.29%
Withdrawn	1	.29%
TOTAL	348	100%



Supreme Court Treatment of Petitions for Allowance of Appeal from Superior Court Decisions in 2021

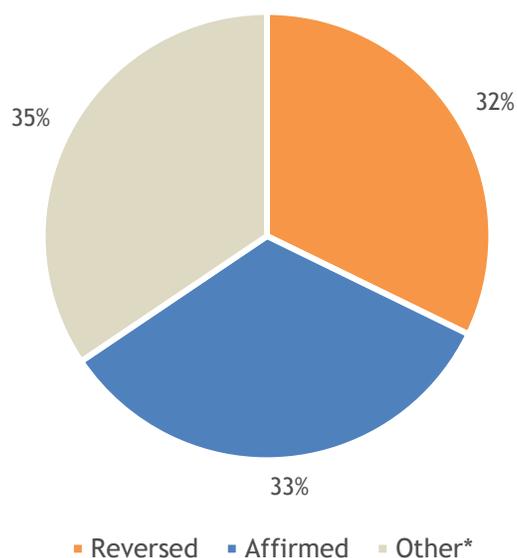


Petitions for Allowance of Appeal	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Granted	56	51	59	35	39
Denied	1,519	1,523	1,539	1,476	1,370
Voided	6	2	5	5	2
Other Disposition *	43	54	70	52	74
Open	574	639	733	616	524
Total Allocatur Petitions Filed	1,655	1,710	1,738	1,448	1,411

* In 2021, this category included 32 discontinued, 21 vacated, 16 limited grants, 4 administrative closures, and 1 dismissed.



Supreme Court Disposition of Allowed Appeals from Superior Court Decisions in 2021



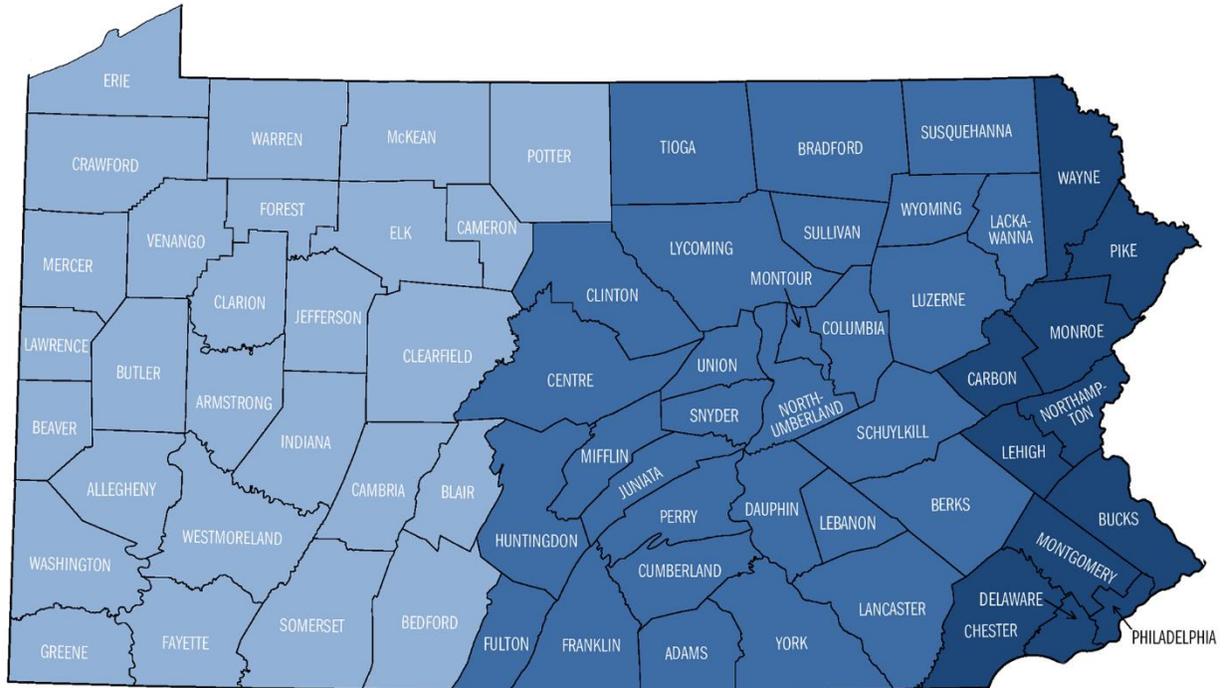
Disposition	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Reversed	20	17	21	24	29
Affirmed	19	20	32	48	30
Other *	21	24	11	15	31
TOTAL	60	61	64	87	90

* Includes affirmed/reversed/remanded 1, discontinued 2, dismissed 2, improvidently granted 6, remanded 1, reversed/vacated 2, transfer 4, vacated 4, vacated/affirmed/remanded 3, vacated/remanded 5, withdrawn 1.





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

