

STATISTICAL REPORT  
RELATING TO THE CIRCUIT COURTS  
OF  
THE STATE OF OREGON

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2016

JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016

Compiled by the  
Communication, Education, and Court Management Division  
Office of the State Court Administrator  
Oregon Judicial Department

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## General Notes about the Statistical Reports

### Judicial District

All reports are sorted by judicial district as follows:

District Number	County(ies)	Courthouse Location(s)
1	Jackson	Medford
2	Lane	Eugene
3	Marion	Salem
4	Multnomah	Portland
5	Clackamas	Oregon City
6	Morrow	Heppner
	Umatilla	Pendleton
		Hermiston
7	Gilliam	Condon
	Hood River	Hood River
	Sherman	Moro
	Wasco	The Dalles
	Wheeler	Fossil

District Number	County(ies)	Courthouse Location(s)
8	Baker	Baker City
9	Malheur	Vale
10	Union	La Grande
	Wallowa	Enterprise
11	Deschutes	Bend
12	Polk	Dallas
13	Klamath	Klamath Falls
14	Josephine	Grants Pass
15	Coos	Coquille
		North Bend
	Curry	Gold Beach
16	Douglas	Roseburg
17	Lincoln	Newport

District Number	County(ies)	Courthouse Location(s)
18	Clatsop	Astoria
19	Columbia	St. Helens
20	Washington	Hillsboro
21	Benton	Corvallis
22	Crook	Prineville
	Jefferson	Madras
23	Linn	Albany
24	Grant	Canyon City
	Harney	Burns
25	Yamhill	McMinnville
26	Lake	Lakeview
27	Tillamook	Tillamook

### Case Classifications

Civil Case Group

Civil.....Actions filed in a circuit court which are not otherwise classified as small claims or landlord tenant or part of another case group. Case type filings include:

- Constitutional Writs (Unjust Enrichment, Habeas Corpus, Mandamus)
- Breach of Contract
- Declaratory Judgment
- Money Action
- Specific Performance
- Administrative Orders
- Confession of Judgment
- Registration of Foreign Judgment
- Transcript of Judgment

- Out-of-State Deposition
- Name Change, Sex Change
- Injunctive Relief
- Post Conviction Relief
- Foreclosure
- Property Actions, e.g. Accounting & Receivership, Claim & Delivery, Eminent Domain, Forfeiture, Lien Foreclosure, Nuisance Abatement, Property Seizure, Quiet Title, Real Property, Way of Necessity, Property Zoning, Property Damages, and Easement
- Water Rights
- Arbitration Review
- Attorney Fee Review
- Breath Test Refusal Appeal
- Election Challenges
- Local Ballot Title Challenges
- License Reinstatement
- Relief from Firearms Restrictions
- Writ of Review
- Tort Actions, e.g. Civil Discrimination, Defamation, Fraud, False Arrest/Imprisonment, Malpractice, Malicious Prosecution, Negligence, Personal Injury
- Product Liability

Landlord Tenant.....Actions filed for forcible entry or wrongful detainer of land, tenement, or other real property under ORS Chapter 105.

Small Claims.....Actions filed in the Small Claims Department of the Circuit Court.

Domestic Relations Case Group

Dissolution.....All actions filed for dissolution.

Other Domestic Relations.....All actions filed under ORS Chapters 107, 108, 109, and 110 other than actions for dissolution and petitions filed under the Family Abuse Prevention Act. Case type filings include:

- Annulment
- Separation
- Adoption

- Spousal Property Rights
- Premarital Agreements
- Spousal Relationships
- Filiation
- Child Custody, Support, and Visitation
- Registration of Foreign Support
- Transfer Support
- URESA/UIFSA

Protective Order.....All actions filed:

- Under the Family Abuse Prevention Act,
- Under the Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities Abuse Prevention Act
- To remedy physical or financial abuse of a vulnerable person
- For a Sexual Abuse Restraining Order
- For a Stalking Protective Order

Criminal Case Group

Felony.....The defendant is charged with one or more violations of state law and the highest statutory degree of any count on the case as indicated in the most recently filed charging instrument is a felony.

Misdemeanor.....The defendant is charged with one or more violations of state law and the highest statutory degree of any count on the case as indicated in the most recently filed charging instrument is a misdemeanor.

Violation.....The defendant is charged with one or more violations of state law and the highest statutory degree of any count on the case as indicated in the most recently filed charging instrument is a violation.

Procedural Matters.....All actions filed with the court as a matter of procedures. Case type filings include:

- Petition for relief from sex offender registration
- Petition to set aside a record of arrest
- Petition for a material witness hold
- Extradition
- Petition, motion or complaint alleging contempt of court

Municipal Parking (Multnomah Only) ..The defendant is charged with one or more violations of state law and the highest

statutory degree of any count on the case as indicated in the most recently filed charging instrument is a parking offense specifically defined in statute as a traffic offense.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, the circuit court in Multnomah County, Oregon, also acts as the municipal court for the city of Portland. Therefore, only the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District also includes statistics on municipal court parking citation filings and terminations.

Probate and Mental Health Case Group

Probate.....All actions filed for guardianship, conservatorship, decedents' estates, small estates, and trusts.

The circuit courts in Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Sherman, and Wheeler Counties do not have primary jurisdiction over probate cases. Probate cases in these jurisdictions are usually adjudicated in a local county court.

Juvenile.....All actions filed under ORS Chapters 418, 419B, and 419C. Case type filings include:

- Juvenile Dependency
- Termination of Parental Rights
- Permanent Guardianship
- Emancipation
- Judicial Determination of Voluntary Foster Care Placement
- Juvenile Delinquency

As of 2016, the circuit courts in Gilliam, Sherman, and Wheeler Counties do not have primary jurisdiction over juvenile petition adjudications except for those involving termination of parental rights. The local county court in these jurisdictions adjudicates most of the juvenile petitions that do not involve termination of parental rights.

Beginning in July, 2016, Morrow County has primary jurisdiction over juvenile dependency matters. Note that effective January 1, 2017, Morrow County also has sole jurisdiction over juvenile delinquency matters.

Civil Commitment.....All actions filed to initiate civil commitment procedures or procedures for commitment of an allegedly mentally ill person.

## Notes about Individual Tables

### **Table 1 – Cases Filed Trend Data**

A case is filed with a Circuit Court when an initiating document is filed with the court or a case is transferred from one Circuit Court to another Circuit Court. Cases on this report were initiated during the reporting period.

### **Table 2 – Cases Terminated Trend Data**

A case is terminated in a Circuit Court when a final disposition resolving all the issues on the case is issued or the case is transferred from one Circuit Court to another Circuit Court. Cases on this report were terminated during the reporting period.

### **Table 3 – Cases Pending Trend Data**

A case is pending in a Circuit Court when the case has been filed but not yet terminated. Pending cases may be active or inactive. A case is considered “active” when it is within the circuit court’s control to move it forward to final disposition. Cases on this report are both pending and active on the final day of the reporting period.

### **Table 4 – Cases Per Authorized Judicial Position**

This report compares the number of cases filed for the reporting period to the number of authorized judicial positions for the same reporting period.

### **Table 5 – Age of Pending Cases**

The age of a case is the number of days a case is “active” with the court. A case is considered active when it is within the circuit court’s control to move it forward to final disposition. This report counts the number of active days on each pending case from the filed date to the last day of the reporting period.

### **Table 6 – Cases Tried Analysis**

*Note: This report is not currently available for 2016.*

This report provides data on the number of trials completed during the reporting period. The report provides length and duration of trials and type of trial. The report also provides the time to trial, which is the total active time on the case from the date of filing until the first day of the trial.

## **Table 7 – Goals for Timely Disposition**

The Oregon Judicial Conference set the Oregon Goals for Timely Disposition based on American Bar Association guidelines as modified for Oregon. The reports reflect cases terminated during the reporting period within specific case categories and time lines.

The percent of cases meeting each goal is cumulative. For example, the percent meeting the 98% goal includes the count of those meeting the 90% goal; the percent meeting the 100% goal includes the count of both those in the 98% and 90% goals. The percent of cases beyond the goal is not cumulative.

The “Civil-General” category includes all case types in the Civil case classification.

The “Domestic Relations” category includes Dissolution and Other Domestic Relations case classifications. The “Domestic Relations” category does not have a 98% goal.

The “Summary Civil” category includes both the Small Claims and Landlord Tenant case classifications. Summary civil has only a 100% goal.