

# MISSOURI SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



## ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT

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# The Missouri Sixteenth Judicial Circuit — Jackson County

**Presiding Judge David M. Byrn (2019-2020)**

## CIRCUIT JUDGES

**Division 1** Sandra C. Midkiff

**Division 2** Kenneth R. Garrett III

**Division 3** David M. Byrn

**Division 4** Justine E. Del Muro

**Division 5** James F. Kanatzar

**Division 6** J. Dale Youngs

**Division 7** S. Margene Burnett

**Division 8** Bryan E. Round

**Division 9** Joel F. Fahnestock

**Division 10** Patrick W. Campbell

**Division 11** George E. Wolf

**Division 12** Jennifer M. Phillips

**Division 13** Charles H. McKenzie

**Division 14** John M. Torrence

**Division 15** Jalilah Otto

**Division 16** Marco A. Roldan

**Division 17** Cory L. Atkins

**Division 18** Kevin D. Harrell

**Division 19** Mark A. Styles, Jr.

Commissioner Jerri J. Zhang

Dep. Commissioner Brian A. Tillema

## ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT JUDGES

**Division 25** Richard T. Standridge

**Division 26** R. Travis Willingham

**Division 27** Sarah A. Castle

**Division 28** Jeffrey C. Keal

**Division 29** Janette K. Rodecap

**Division 30** Twila K. Rigby

**Division 31** Mary F. Weir

**Division 32** Kyndra Stockdale

**Division 33** Jeffrey L. Bushur

**Division 34** Susan E. Long

## COMMISSIONERS

**Division 40** William R. Jackson III

**Division 41** Kea S. Bird-Riley

**Division 42** Sherrill L. Rosen

**Division 43** David P. Kimminau

**Division 44** Nancy Alemifar

**Division 50** David J. Fry

**Court Administrator**

Mary A. Marquez

**Deputy Court Admin./Family Court Services**

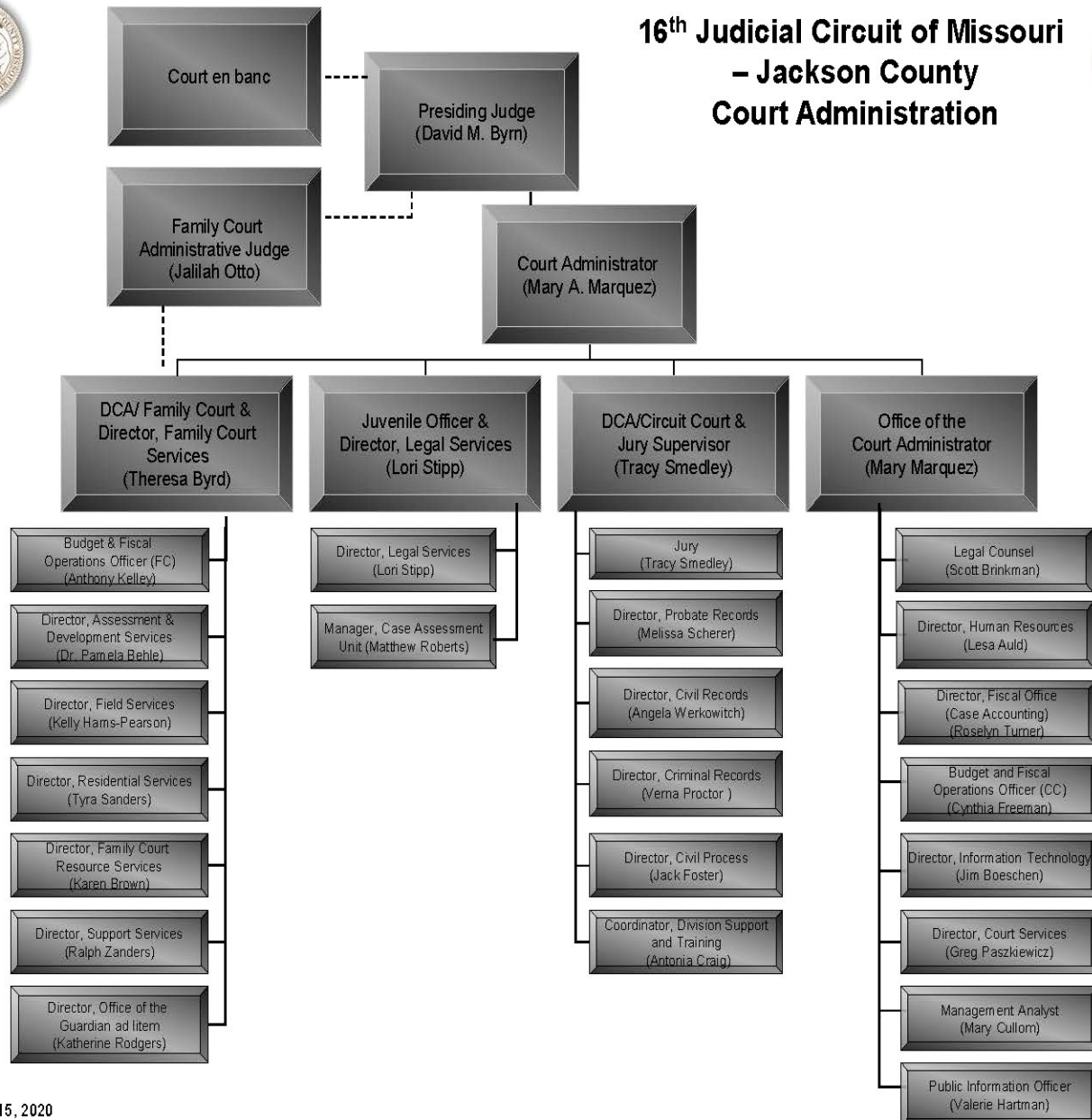
Theresa Byrd

**Deputy Court Admin./Jury Supervisor**

Tracy L. Smedley

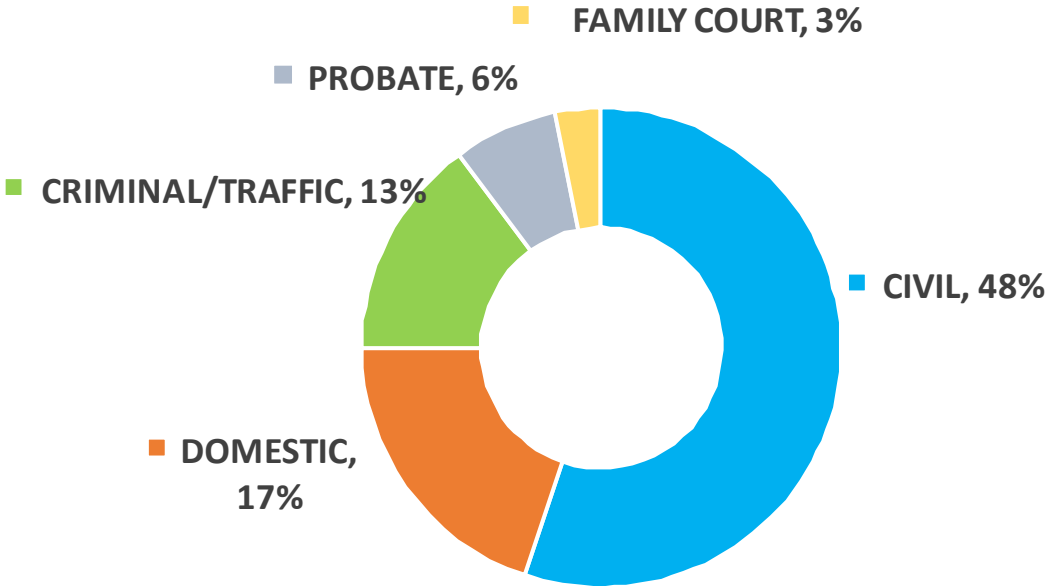


# 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit of Missouri – Jackson County Court Administration



January 15, 2020

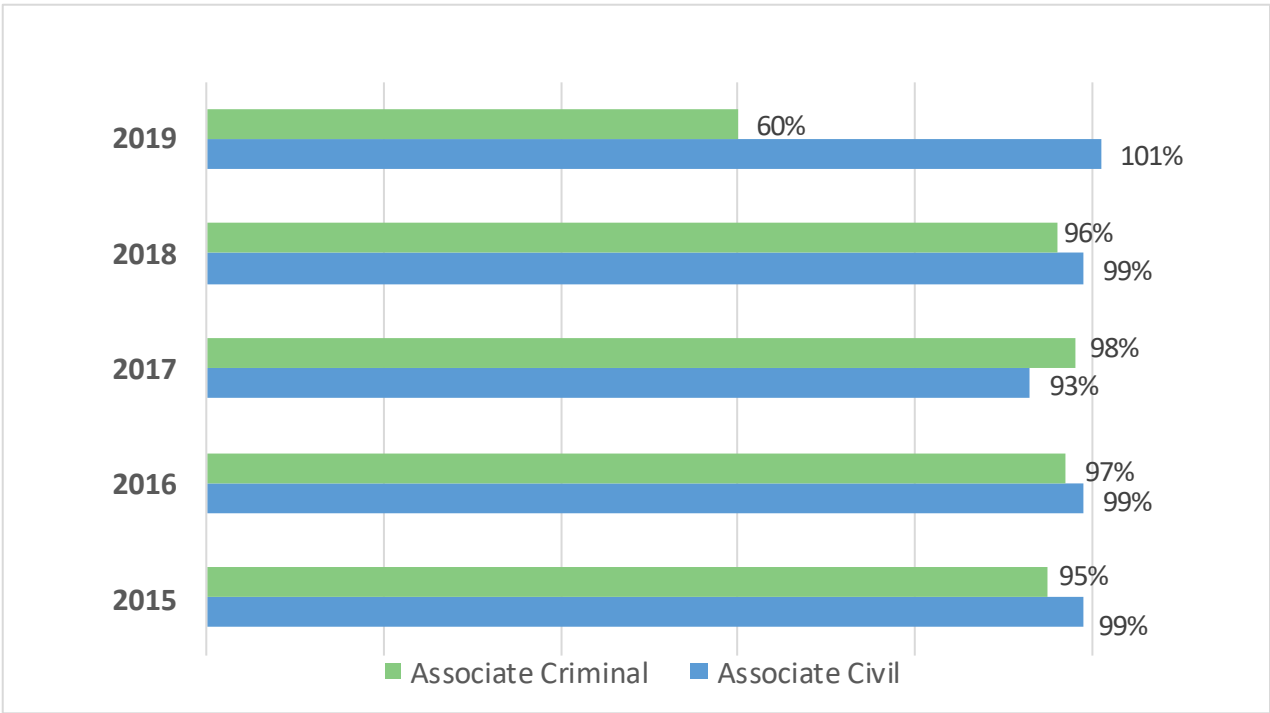
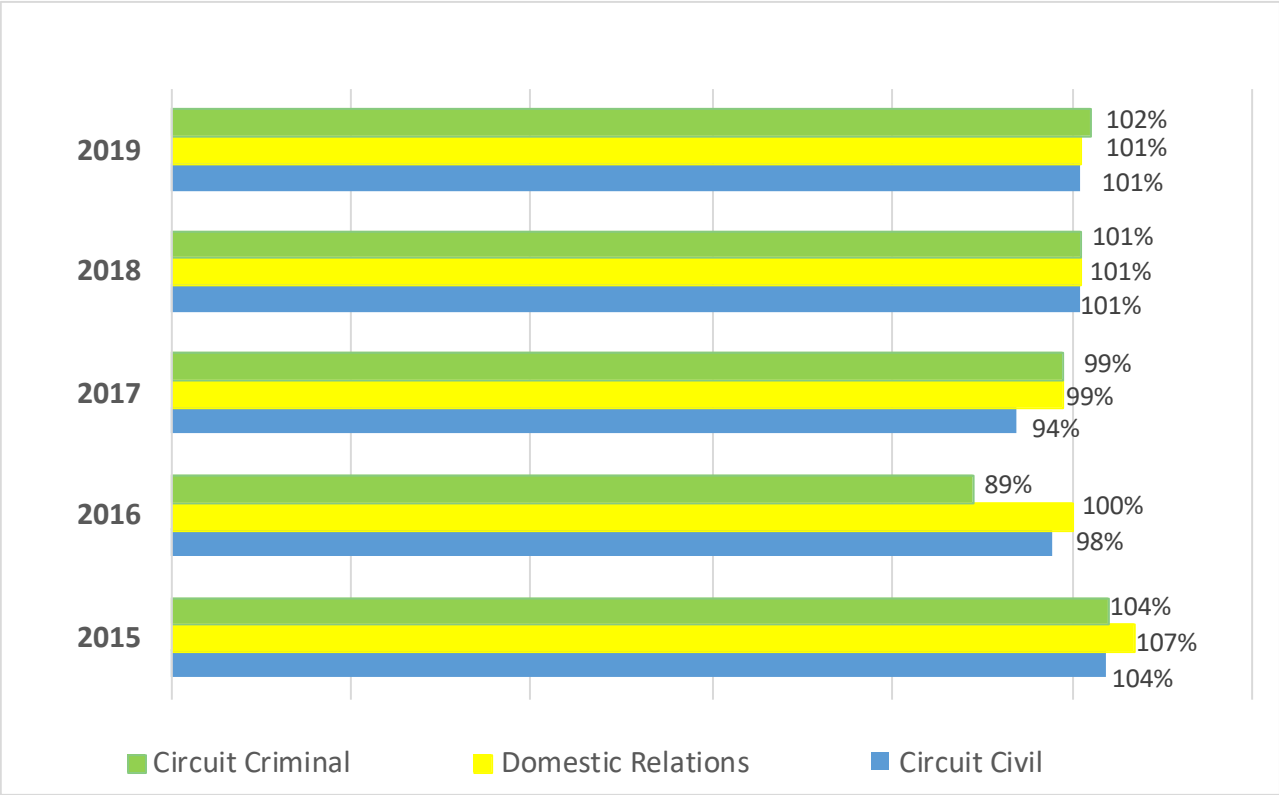
# 2019 COURTWIDE CASE FILINGS



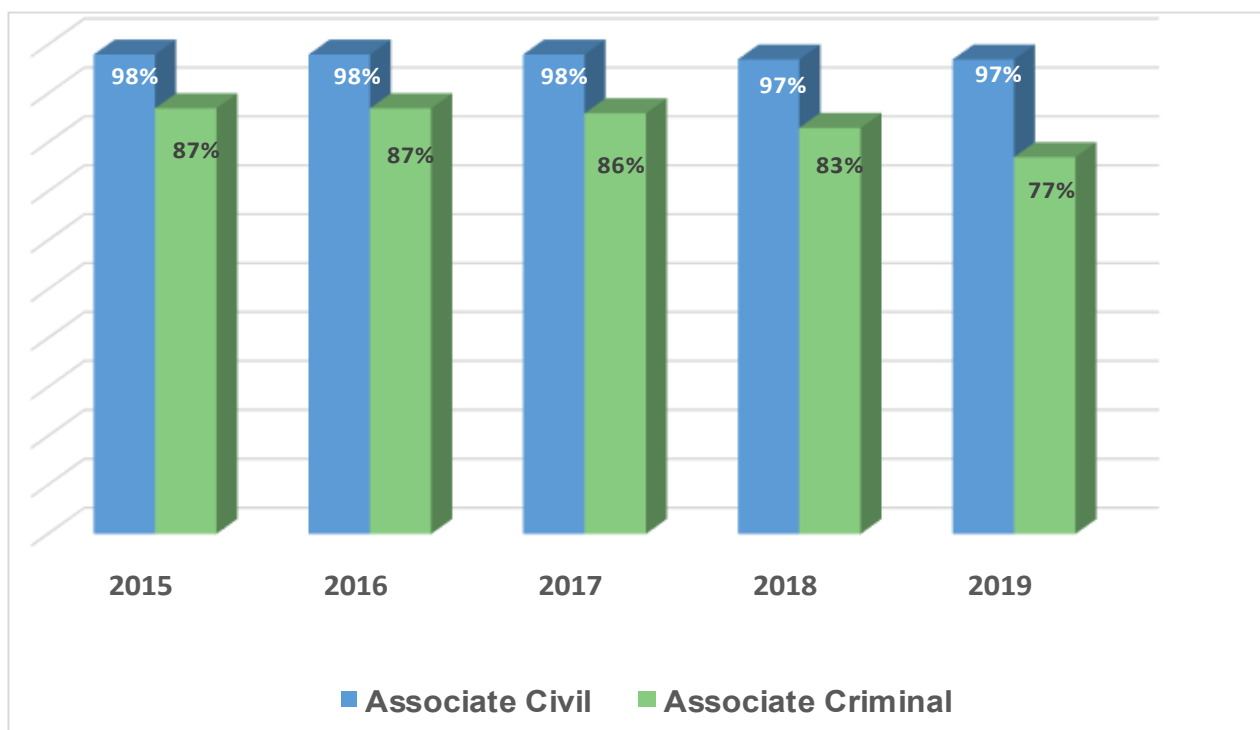
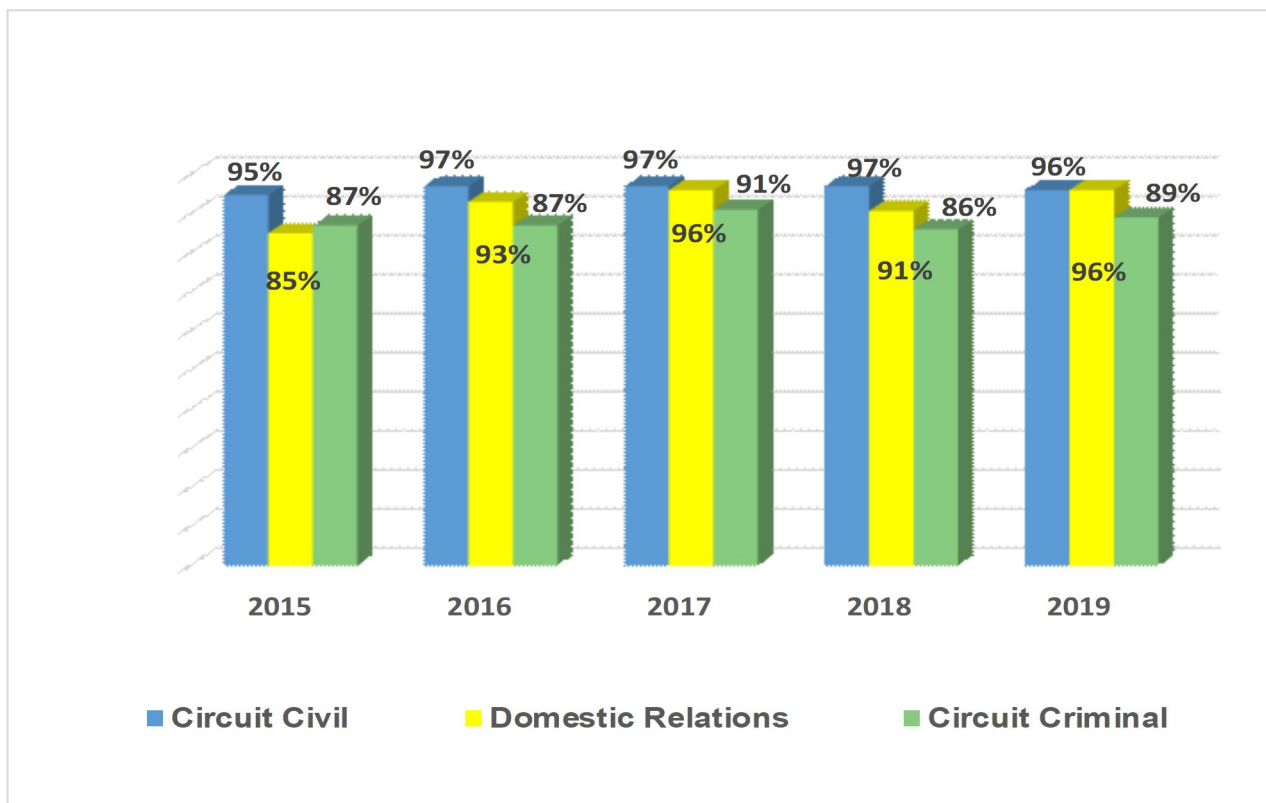
**Note:** The Criminal/Traffic category includes associate and circuit felony and misdemeanor filings as well as traffic cases and municipal appeals.

# COURT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

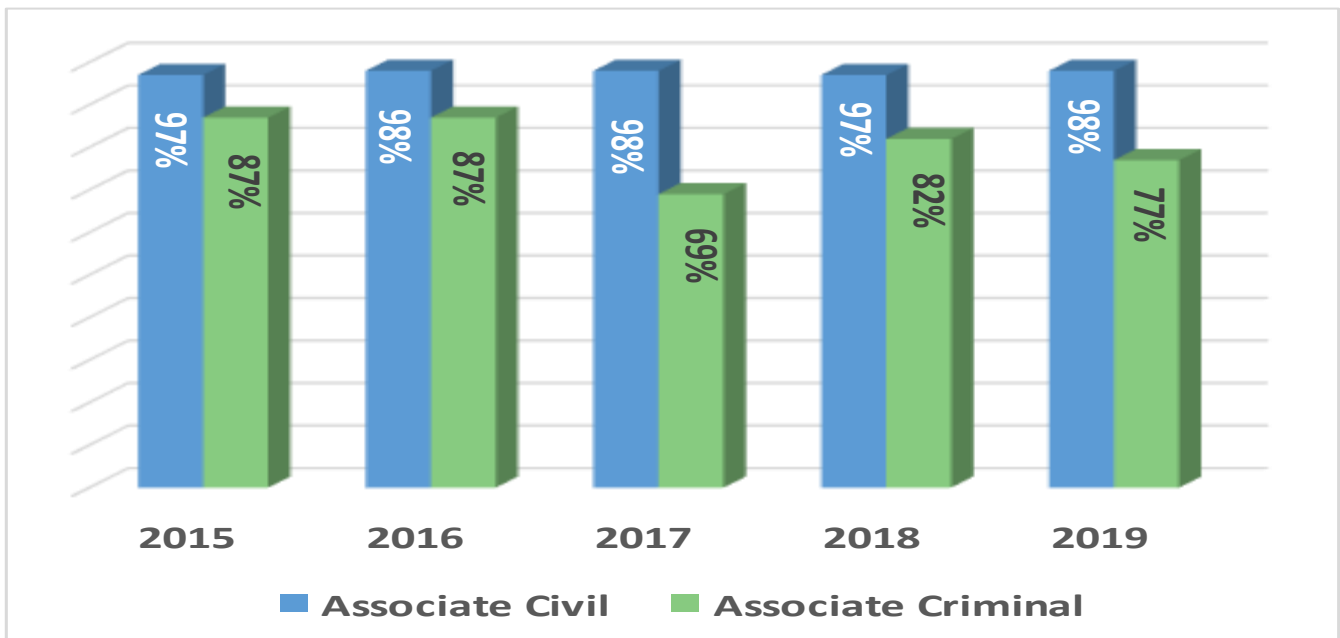
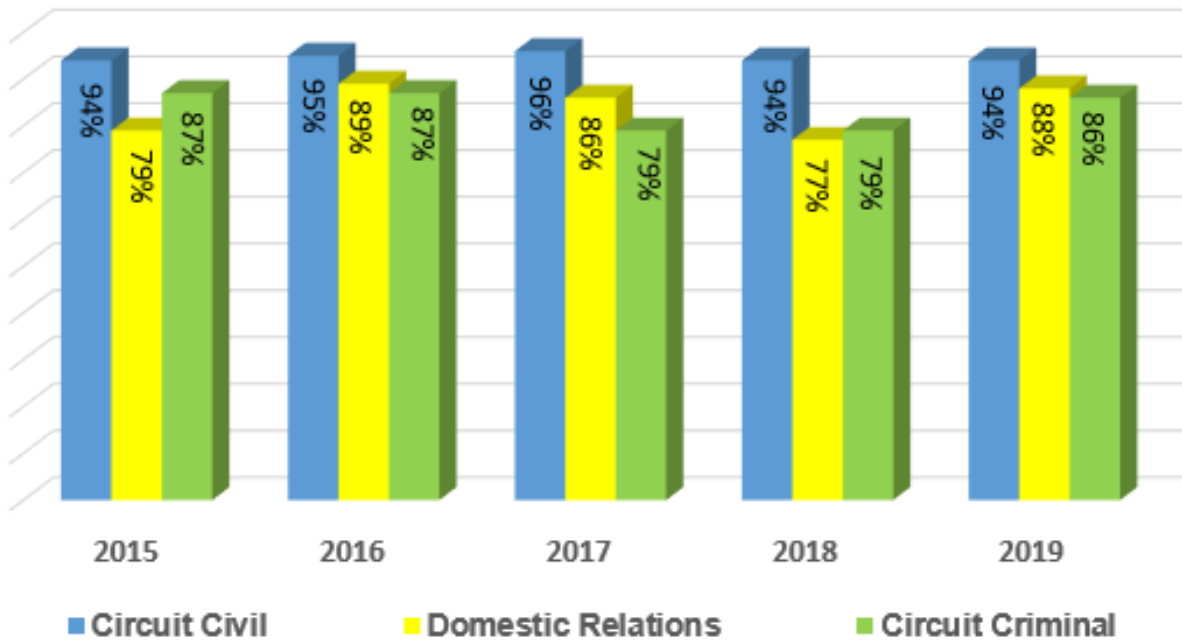
The charts below show Clearance Rates, or the ratio of dispositions to filings in each calendar year.



The charts below show the percentage of cases meeting time standards, or the time period in which 95% of filings should be disposed. This time period is 900 days for Circuit Civil cases, 420 days for Circuit Criminal and Domestic cases, 360 days for Associate Circuit Civil cases, and 240 days for Associate Criminal cases.



Age of Pending Caseloads use the same time standards as time to disposition. The standards require that 95% of pending caseloads are within these time periods. The statistics shown are for caseloads on December 31.





## CIVIL RECORDS DEPARTMENT

The Department of Civil Records started 2019 in the same way that many other areas of the downtown court did: our Kansas City office was displaced by the flood. We are very proud of the way the staff members in both the Kansas City and Independence locations handled the disruption. With no notice and many inconveniences along the way, our employees completely reconfigured the way work was done in Civil Records. Independence staff took on new responsibilities and new office mates as roles and employees were moved to that office, at least temporarily.

The disruption gave our department the opportunity to re-evaluate our processes, and we made some big changes to the structure of the Kansas City office halfway through the year. We reconfigured the units in the Kansas City office to better reflect the way cases move through the court system, a configuration that is very similar to the way the Independence office is structured. After the reconfiguration, the Kansas City civil office consists of Case Initiation (which includes Domestic Case Initiation), Case Action, and Post-Judgment (which includes Child Support and Garnishments). We also developed a small internal unit that is designed to provide internal training, create and run reports, and to "float" to assist whichever unit is most in need of assistance, depending on case filings. These changes have made a big difference in the workflow of the department, and we look forward to seeing these new units in action as we move forward.

<b>CIRCUIT CIVIL</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Filings	3,294	3,601	3,737
Dispositions	3,398	3,638	3,764
Jury Trials	48	42	36
Court Trials	353	465	427
Pending 12/31	2,640	3,040	3,016
<b>ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT CIVIL</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Filings	24,751	30,836	30,703
Dispositions	24,631	30,622	30,908
Jury Trials	4	0	1
Court Trials	1,737	1,210	1,071
Pending 12/31	7,179	9,590	9,385

#### **Comparison 2019 to 2018:**

Circuit Civil (CC) filings increased 4% overall; they increased 5% in Kansas City and remained virtually unchanged in Independence.

Associate Circuit Civil (ACC) filings decreased less than 1% overall.

CC dispositions increased 3%, and ACC dispositions increased 1%.

Jury trials declined 14% in CC cases, and bench trials declined 8%.

Bench trials in ACC cases declined 11%

There were approximately the same number of CC cases and ACC cases pending on 12/31/2019 as on 12/31/2018.

#### **Comparison 2019 to 2015:**

CC filings increased 13% overall and 23% in Independence.

ACC filings increased 24% (15% in Kansas City and 41% in Independence).

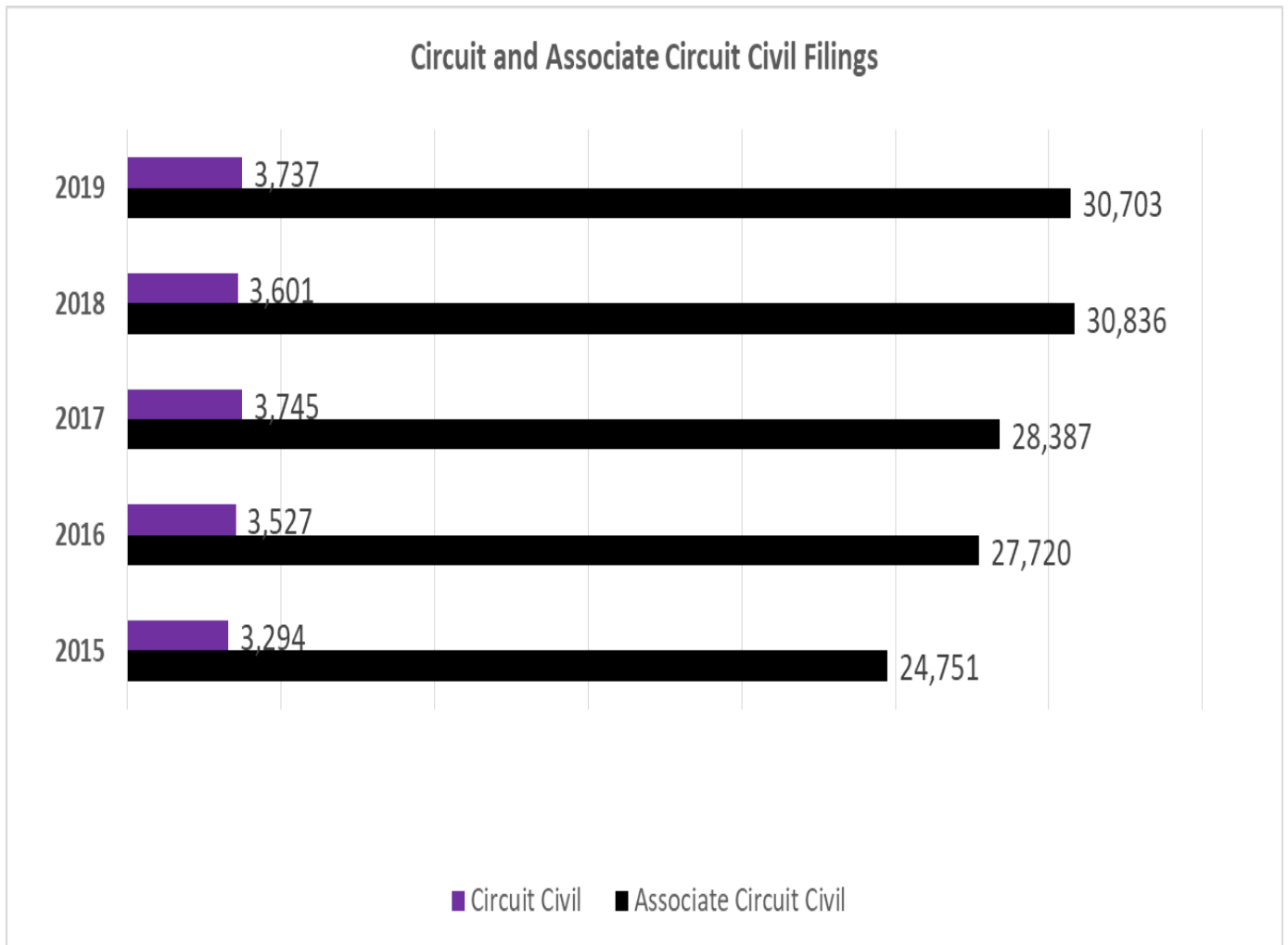
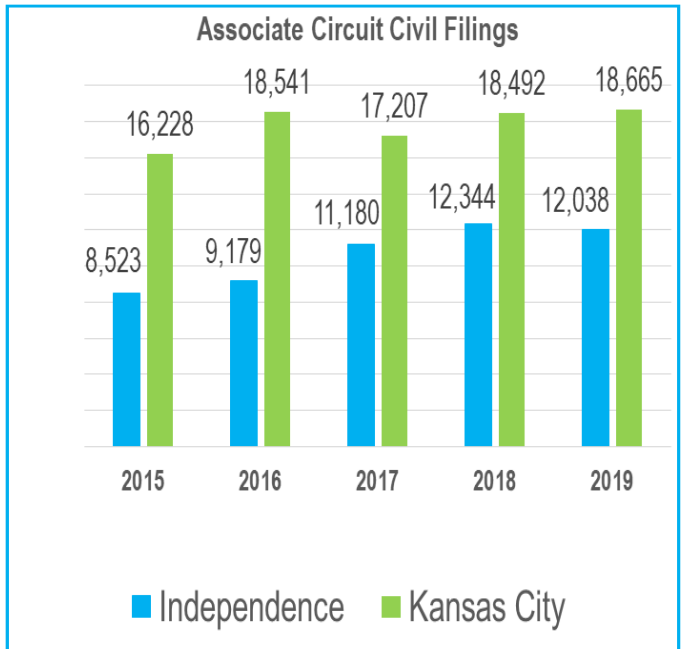
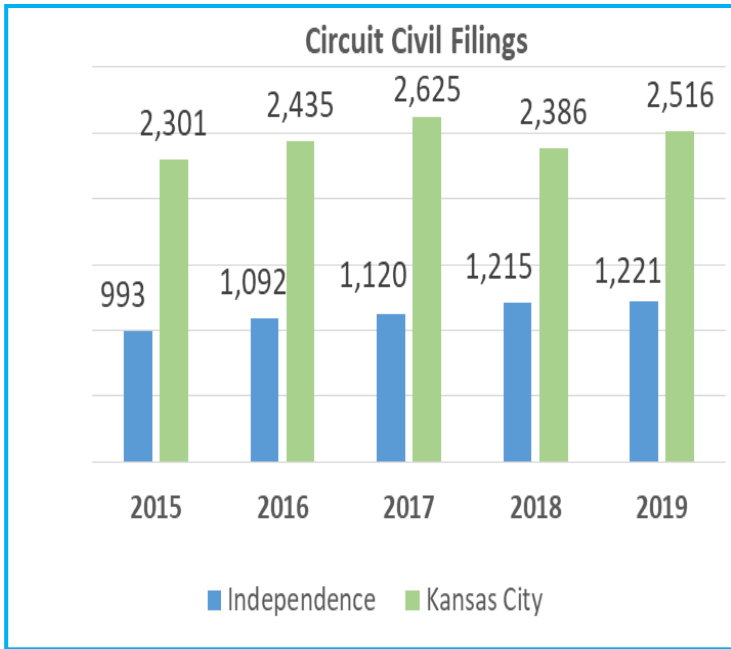
CC dispositions increased 11%, and ACC dispositions increased 25%.

There were 25% fewer jury trials in CC cases and 21% more bench trials.

There were 38% fewer bench trials in ACC cases.

There were 14% more CC cases and 31% more ACC cases pending on 12/31/2019 than were pending on 12/31/2015.

In 2019, Vehicular Personal Injury filings made up the greatest percentage of CC filings and Suits on Account the greatest percentage of ACC filings.



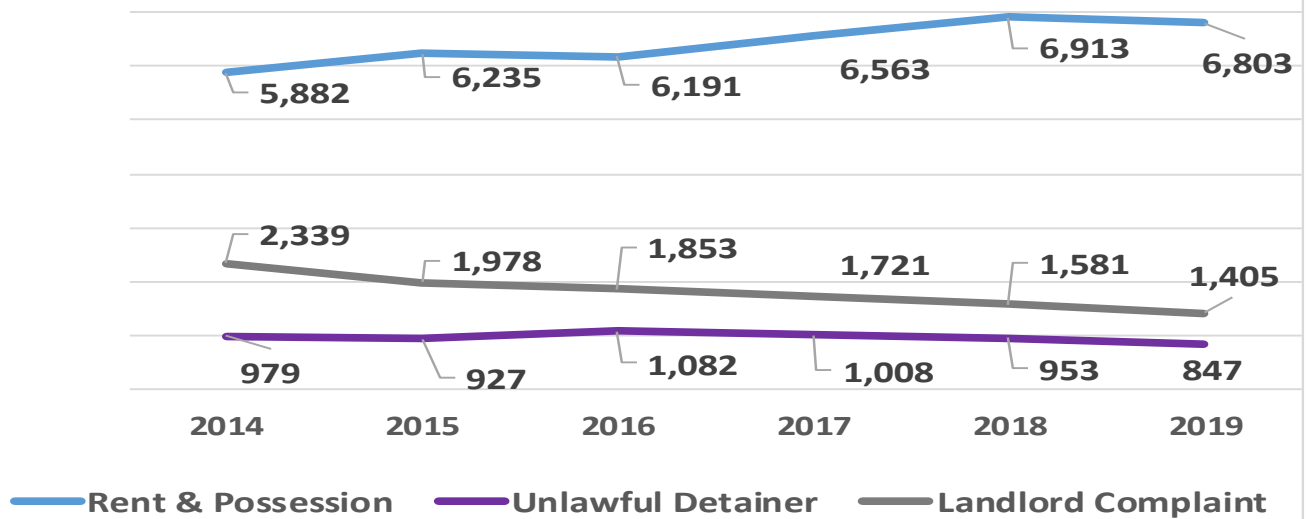
**CIRCUIT CIVIL FILINGS BY CASE TYPE**

<b>Nature of Action</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>%*</b>
Pers Injury-Vehicular	540	613	707	626	730	19.5%
Pers Injury-Other	302	311	330	336	320	8.6%
Breach of Contract	336	293	311	321	349	9.3%
Other Miscellaneous Actions	245	267	295	279	248	6.6%
Other Tort	222	252	254	245	249	6.7%
Employmnt Discrmntn 213.111	232	266	286	214	228	6.1%
Other Real Estate Actions	65	90	101	133	143	3.8%
Quiet Title	124	137	124	122	127	3.4%
Wrongful Death	65	84	104	117	122	3.3%
Pers Injury-Malpractice	125	94	87	103	94	2.5%
Contract-Other	94	99	95	94	104	2.8%
Replevin	105	141	100	76	84	2.2%
Suit on Account	73	50	56	69	43	1.2%
Motn, Rules 29.15 or 24.035	67	82	94	68	92	2.5%
Declaratory Judgment	80	74	75	58	69	1.8%
Refuse Breath 302.750/577.04	23	31	57	57	70	1.9%
Delinquent Taxes	1	10	8	53	13	0.3%
Property Damage	55	54	58	50	39	1.0%
Reg Foreign Jgmt (excl DR)	66	77	59	47	72	1.9%
CAFA Forfeit 513.600-513.64	65	77	67	45	43	1.2%
Expunge Criminal Records	2	3	4	44	54	1.4%
Small Claims Trial de Novo	44	48	56	40	35	0.9%
Other Filings	362	346	296	404	409	10.9%
	3,293	3,499	3,624	3,601	3,737	100.0%
* Percentage of 2019 filings						

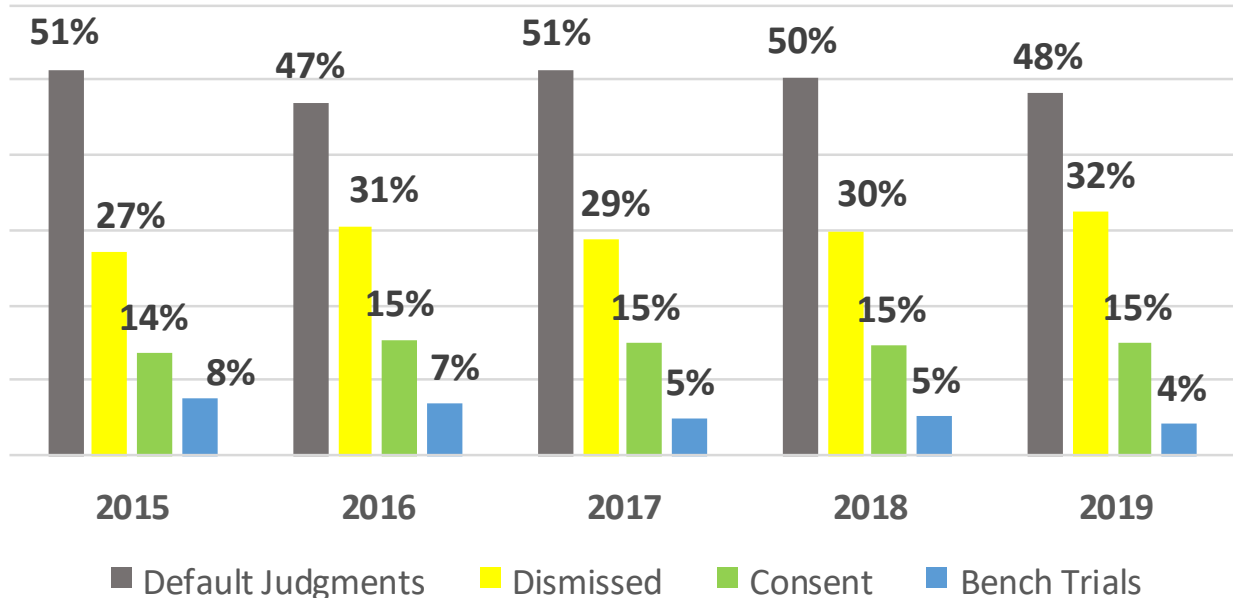
## ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT CIVIL FILINGS BY CASE TYPE

Nature of Action	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	%*
Suit on Account	4,647	5,732	7,096	7,881	8,566	27.9%
Rent and Possession	6,235	6,191	6,563	6,913	6,803	22.2%
Breach of Contract	5,105	5,795	5,856	6,742	5,843	19.0%
Delinquent Taxes	1,427	2,655	1,580	1,966	2,646	8.6%
Landlord Complaint	1,978	1,853	1,721	1,581	1,405	4.6%
Contract-Other	963	794	1,086	1,145	1,138	3.7%
Small Claims over \$100	981	1,001	988	971	923	3.0%
Unlawful Detainer	927	1,082	1,008	953	847	2.8%
Reg of Foreign Judgment	293	496	517	589	543	1.8%
Promissory Note	528	508	473	444	372	1.2%
Property Damage	438	456	471	438	476	1.6%
Refus Breath 302.750/577.04	531	477	433	411	353	1.1%
Other Tort	50	58	57	143	178	0.6%
Declaratory Judgment	91	87	86	118	73	0.2%
Misc Associate Civil-Other	125	124	94	104	107	0.3%
DL Revoc Rvw 302.311 RSMo	88	85	80	101	97	0.3%
Limit Dr Priv 302.309 RSMo	35	48	58	54	55	0.2%
AC SATOP Revw 302.540/577.041	40	34	48	46	29	0.1%
Other Actions	270	271	225	228	249	0.8%
	24,752	27,747	28,440	30,828	30,703	100.0%
* Percentage of 2019 filings						

### FILINGS IN RENT & POSSESSION, UNLAWFUL DETAINER, AND LANDLORD COMPLAINT ACTIONS



### DISPOSITIONS IN RENT & POSSESSION, UNLAWFUL DETAINER AND LANDLORD CASES



<b>DOMESTIC RELATIONS</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Filings	5,530	5,680	5,458
Dispositions	6,222	5,708	5,608
Court Trials	1,004	846	930
Pending Cases 12/31	3,303	3,113	3,620
<b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Filings	7,045	6,876	6,847
Dispositions	7,210	6,934	6,776
Ex Parte Orders of Protection	3,835	3,482	5,697
Full Orders of Protection	1,483	1,341	1,032
Pending Cases 12/31	408	571	612

**Comparison 2019 to 2018:**

Domestic Relations (DR) filings decreased 4%, while dispositions decreased 2%.

There were 10% more bench trials disposing of DR cases.

Domestic Violence (DV) filings decreased by less than 1 percent; dispositions decreased 2%.

There were 64% more ex parte orders entered in DV cases and 23% fewer full orders of protection entered.

On 12/31/2019 there were 16% more DR cases pending and 7% more DV cases pending than on 12/31/2018.

**Comparison 2019 to 2015:**

Domestic Relations (DR) filings decreased 1%, while dispositions decreased 10%.

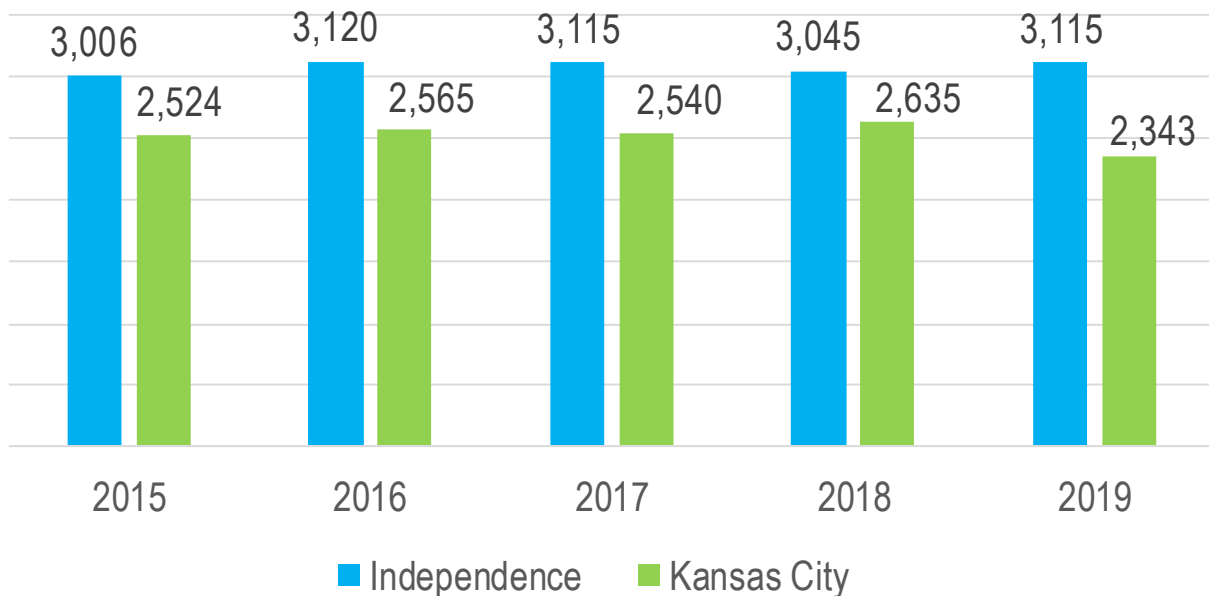
There were 7% fewer court trials disposing of DR cases.

Domestic Violence (DV) filings decreased 3%, and dispositions decreased 6%.

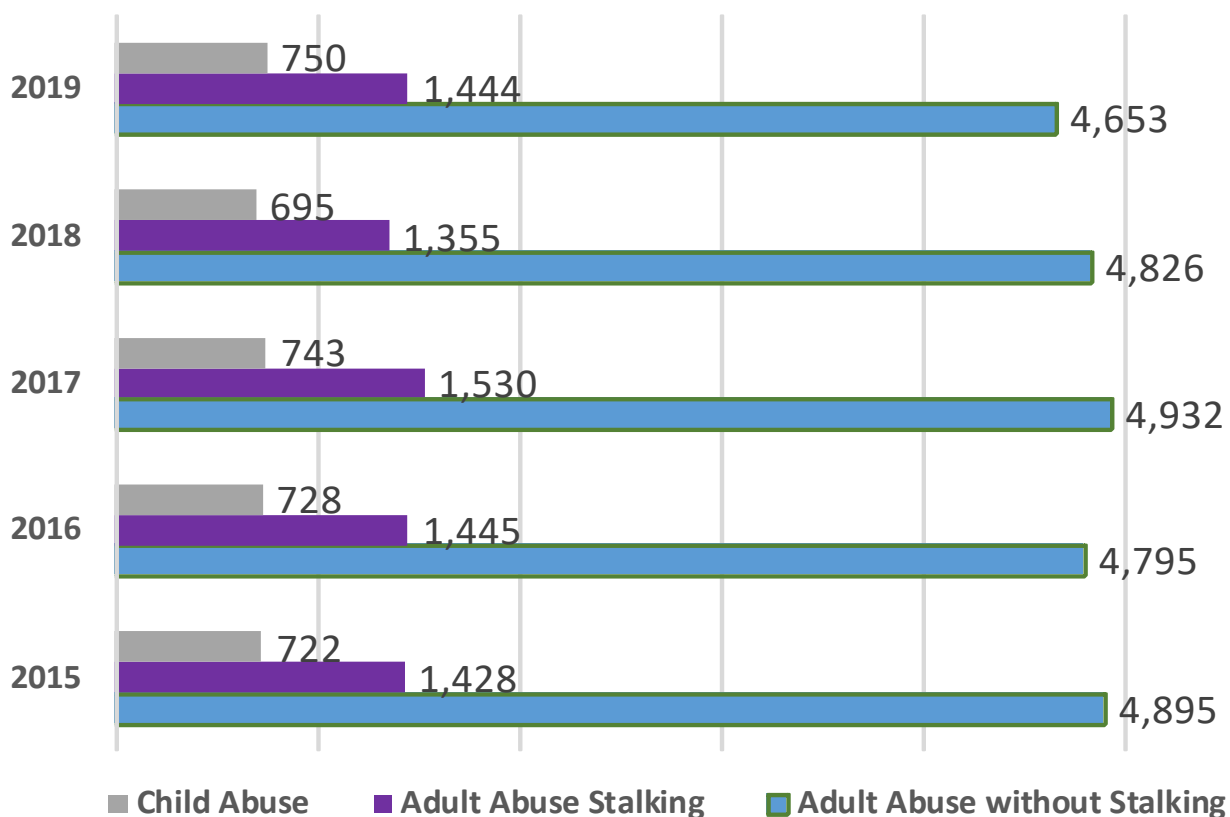
There were 49% more ex parte orders entered in DV cases and 30% fewer full orders of protection entered.

On 12/31/2019 there were 10% more DR cases pending and 50% more DV cases pending than on 12/31/2015.

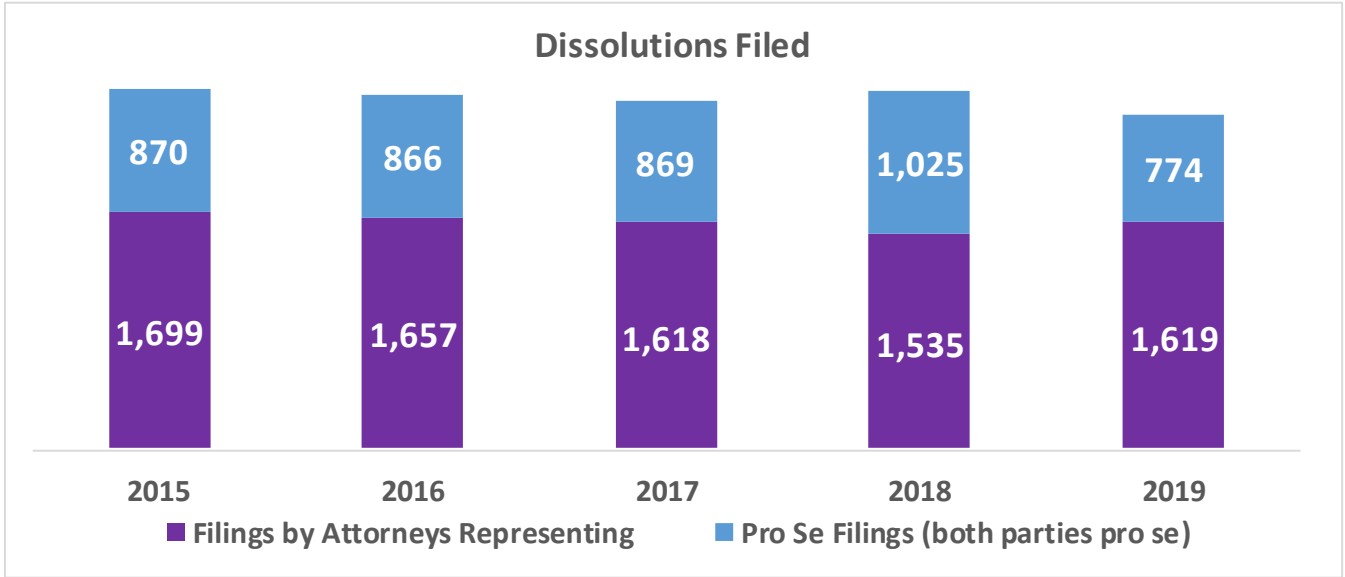
### Domestic Relations Filings



### Domestic Violence Filings By Case Type







### Dissolutions by Disposition\*

	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	Pro Se	Other	Pro Se	Other	Pro Se	Other	Pro Se	Other	Pro Se	Other
<b>Default</b>	0%	9%	1%	2%	0%	4%	3%	7%	7%	5%
<b>Tried by Court</b>	0%	18%	1%	16%	1%	20%	4%	13%	9%	7%
<b>Consent/Uncontested</b>	89%	57%	90%	67%	90%	61%	80%	65%	69%	74%
<b>Dismissed by Court</b>	9%	8%	3%	7%	6%	7%	10%	9%	12%	6%
<b>Dismissed by Parties</b>	2%	6%	4%	5%	3%	6%	2%	5%	2%	6%
<b>Other</b>	0%	1%	0%	2%	0%	2%	0%	1%	2%	2%

\*Pro se cases are cases where both parties were pro se, and other cases are those where one or both parties were represented by attorneys at the conclusion of the dissolution action

## **CRIMINAL RECORDS DEPARTMENT**

Criminal Records implemented a variety of new systems and procedures in 2019, starting with the Non Appearance Court Automation (NACA) system in March, and in April adopting an electronic anytime warrant process using shared folders with the Judges. July brought transitions of municipal ordinance cases from Lake Lotawana to the Associate Circuit, a new Document Naming Process, and the implementation of e-warrants (MULES repository) for law enforcement coming off the REJIS system.

In August, Population Control began e-filing of their documents and November started the filing of priority arrest warrants (in-custody and walk through) into specified mail boxes. Additionally, this year saw the standardization of all law enforcement agencies using the OSCA and Supreme Court approved search warrant forms and the e-filing of service returns, and the prosecutors began using the PA Portal for previous Fine Collection Center (FCC) tickets.

<b>FELONIES</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Filings	4,279	4,554	4,220
Extraditions*	766	1,092	1,100
Dispositions	3,680	3,301	3,438
Jury Trials	55	50	46
Court Trials	19	14	13
Pending 12/31	6,215	8,095	7,398
<b>MISDEMEANORS</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Filings	3,552	2,832	2,084
Dispositions	3,773	3,991	2,328
Jury Trials	27	2	1
Court Trials	1	21	24
Pending 12/31	5,319	4,903	4,246
<b>SEARCH WARRANTS</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Filings	1,434	1,683	1,969
Returns	1,434	1,584	1,936

#### **Comparison of 2019 to 2018:**

Felony filings decreased 7%; extraditions\* increased by less than 1%.

Felony filings decreased in Independence by 5% and in Kansas City by 8%.

Felony dispositions increased by 4%, with 8% fewer jury trials and one fewer bench trial.

Misdemeanor filings fell 26%, and dispositions decreased 42%.

Misdemeanor filings decreased 33% in Independence and 3% in Kansas City.

Applications for search warrants increased 17%.

#### **Comparison of 2019 to 2015:**

Felony filings decreased 1%, and extraditions\* increased 44%.

Felony filings in Independence decreased 10%; felony filings in Kansas City increased 4%.

Felony dispositions declined 7%; there were 16% fewer jury trials and 32% fewer bench trials.

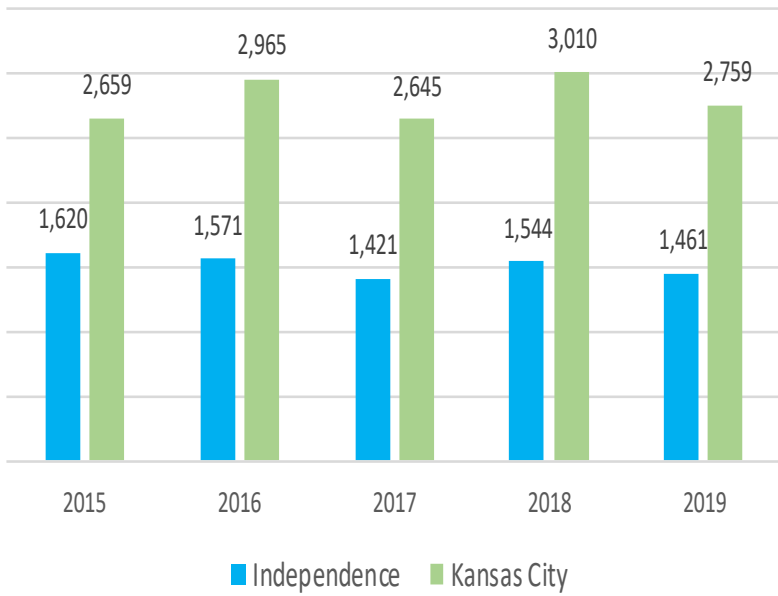
Misdemeanor filings decreased 41%, and dispositions decreased 38%.

Misdemeanor filings decreased 51% in Independence but increased 46% in Kansas City.

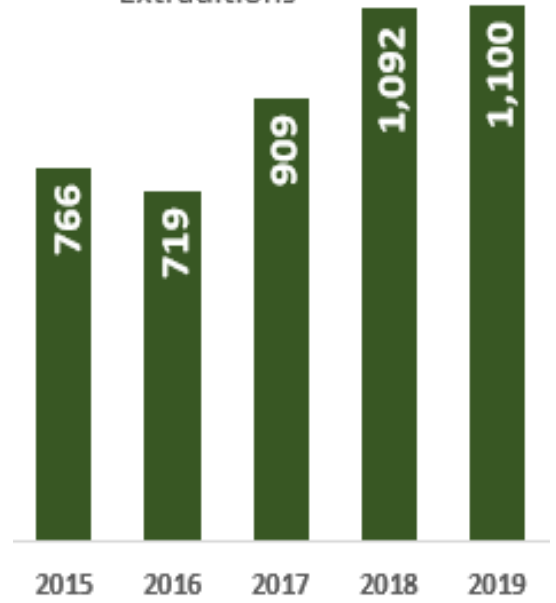
Applications for search warrants increased 37%.

**\*Note: Extradition filings and dispositions are not included within the felony counts.**

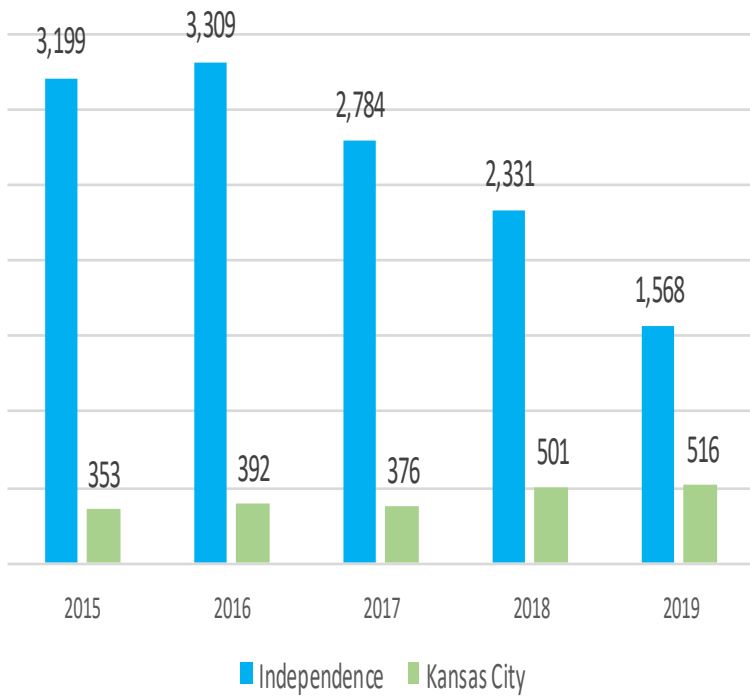
### Felony Filings



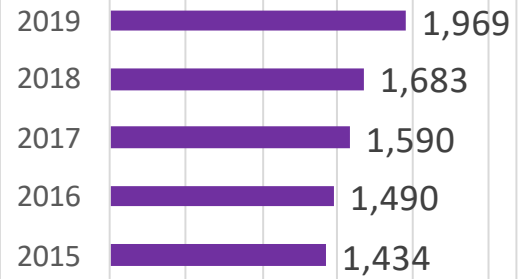
### Extraditions



### Misdemeanor Filings



### Search Warrant Applications



Felony Filings By Charge		
Based on Highest Charge Filed in Case		
Charge	Filings	% Total Felonies
Possession Controlled Substance	1,304	31%
Tampering 1st	287	7%
Stealing - \$750 or More	162	4%
Unlawful Possession of a Firearm	152	4%
Burglary - 2nd	140	3%
Domestic Assault - 2nd	133	3%
Del Controlled Substance Exc Marj	129	3%
Robbery - 1st	119	3%
DWI - Persistent Offender	103	2%
Resist Arrest/Det/Stop	102	2%
Other Charges	1,558	37%

This table presents charge information for initial F2 cases filed in 2019.

Sentencing in Felony Cases				
	Probation		Confinement	
	SIS	SES	Jackson Co. Jail	Dept. of Corrections
<b>2019</b>	22%	36%	15%	25%
<b>2018</b>	24%	40%	15%	21%
<b>2017</b>	26%	41%	15%	18%
<b>2016</b>	27%	39%	15%	18%
<b>2015</b>	28%	40%	12%	20%

Misdemeanor Filings By Charge		
Based on Highest Charge Filed in Case		
Charge	Filings	% Total
		Misdemeanors
DWI	497	24%
Owr Oprt Mv Wth Fnl Resp	364	17%
DWR/DWS - 1st Offense	167	8%
Oper Mv W/O Val DL 1st Off	113	5%
Oper Mtr Veh Careless	91	4%
Oper Veh Wth Poor Brakes	78	4%
Trespassing - 2nd	71	3%
Unlawfl Poss Drug Parapher	65	3%
DWR/DWS - 2nd or 3rd Off	56	3%
DWI - Prior	52	2%
Other Charges	530	25%

Sentencing in Misdemeanor Cases				
	Fine	Probation		Confinement Jackson Co. Jail
		SIS	SES	
<b>2019</b>	45%	31%	9%	14%
<b>2018</b>	57%	27%	5%	10%
<b>2017</b>	62%	21%	6%	11%
<b>2016</b>	60%	18%	6%	15%
<b>2015</b>	58%	20%	7%	15%

<b>TRAFFIC</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019*</b>	
Filings	3,430	3,069	5,375	175%
Dispositions	3,717	2,571	5,007	195%
Court Trials	25	18	21	117%
Pending 12/31	3,803	3,394	2,198	65%
<b>MUNICIPAL APPEALS</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	
Filings	177	219	512	234%
Dispositions	200	154	541	351%
Jury Trials	1	3	3	100%
Court Trials	24	38	58	153%
Pending 12/31	43	81	58	72%

#### **Comparison 2019 to 2018:**

Traffic filings increased 75%, and traffic dispositions increased 95%.

Bench trials in traffic cases increased 17%.

Municipal appeal filings increased 134%; dispositions in municipal appeals increased 251%.

The number of jury trials stayed the same, but there were 53% more bench trials.

Filings in drug court increased 22%, while criminal filings with a drug-related first charge decreased 10%.

#### **Comparison 2019 to 2015:**

Traffic filings increased 57%, and traffic dispositions increased 35%.

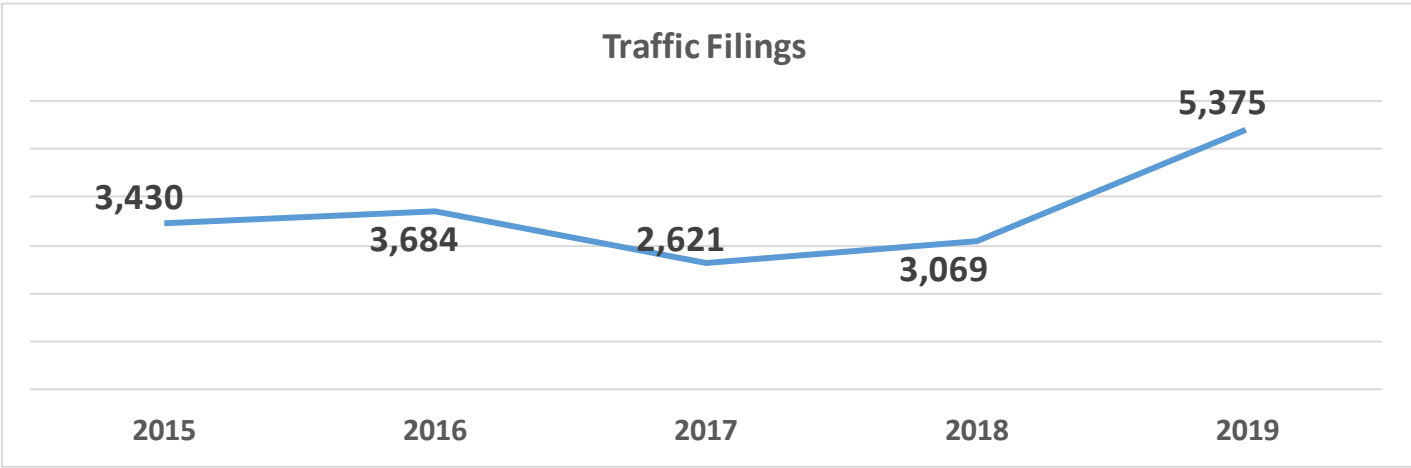
Bench trials in traffic cases decreased 16%.

Filings of municipal appeals increased 189%; dispositions of municipal appeals increased 171%.

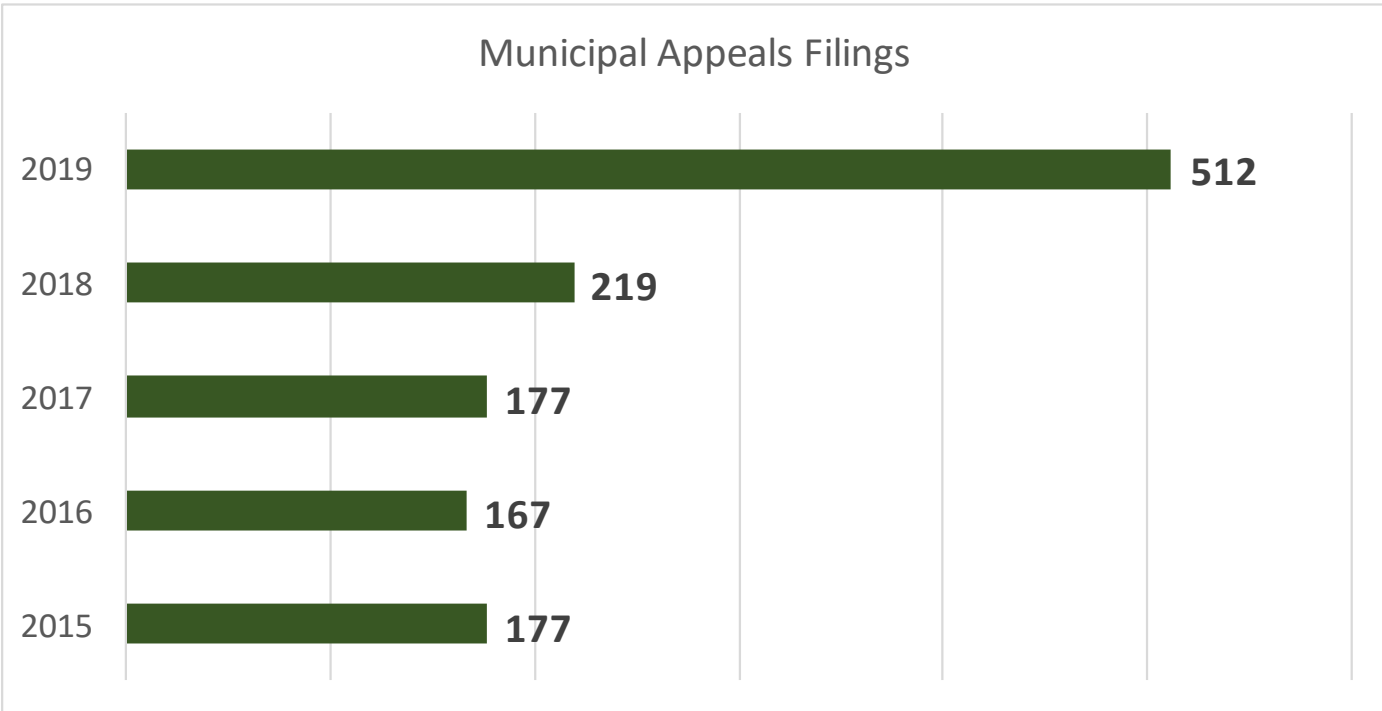
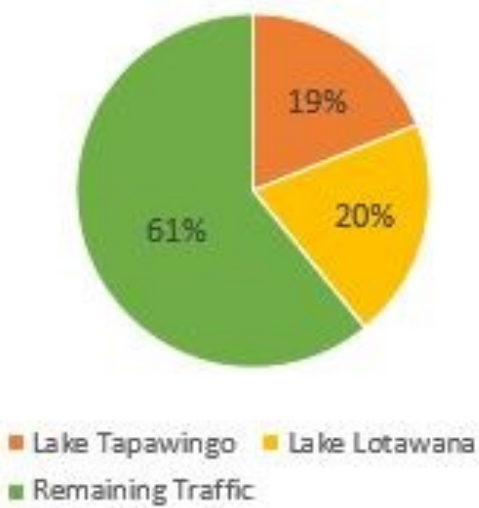
Bench trials in municipal appeal cases increased 142%, but jury trials tripled from 1 in 2015 to 3 in 2019.

Filings in drug court increased 56% at the same time that criminal filings with a drug-related first charge increased 49%.

**Note\*:** Lake Lotawana tickets added July 1, 2019.

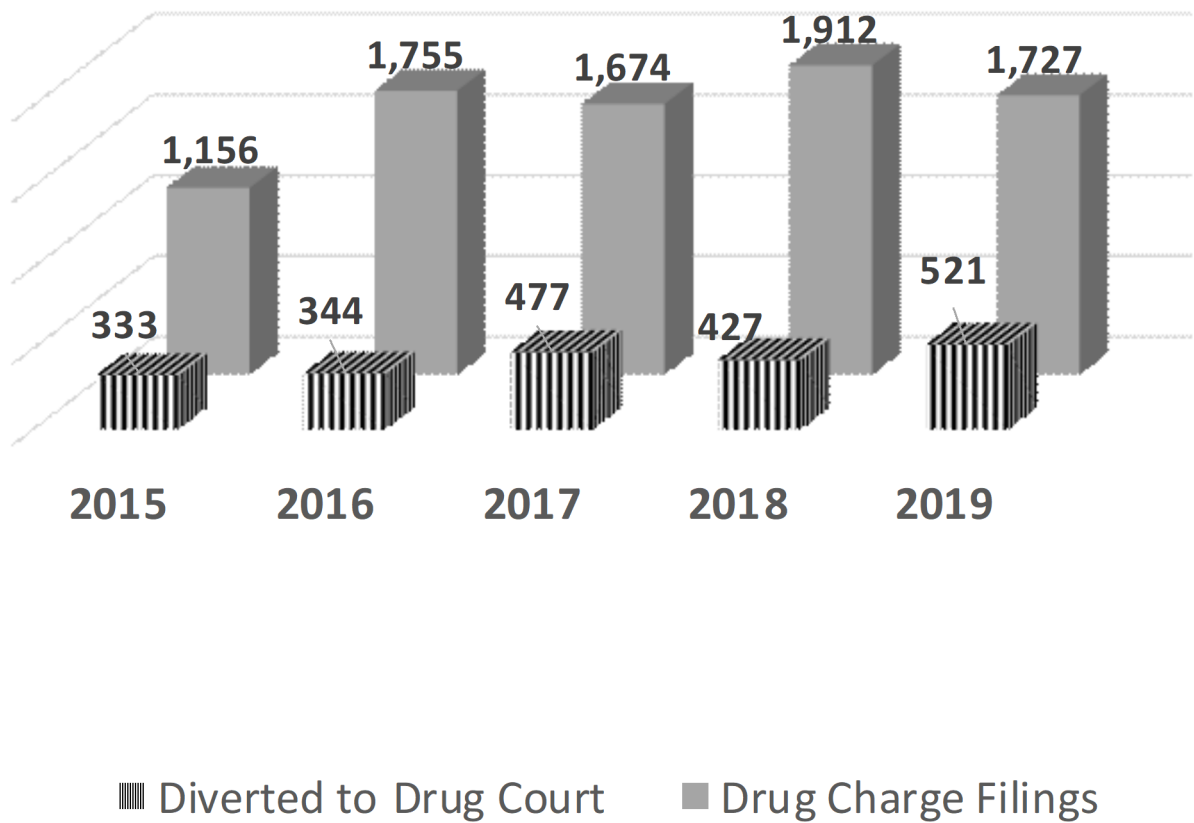


2019 Filings





## Filings with Drug Charges Diverted to Drug Court



## PROBATE RECORDS

Despite some challenges early in the year due to flooding at the downtown courthouse, the Probate Department worked collaboratively with Probate Division personnel to assure that probate matters were processed timely.

Although overall probate new case filings saw a decrease from last year of approximately 2%, there was a 20% increase in minor guardianship and/or conservatorship cases and a 2% increase in adult guardianship and/or conservatorship cases.

The biggest decrease in filings was seen in mental health case related filings, with a 9% decrease in Applications for 96-Hour Detention, Evaluation, and Treatment; a 35% decrease in Petitions for 21-Day Additional Detention and Treatment; and a 47% decrease in Petitions for 90-Day Additional Detention and Treatment.

<b>PROBATE</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Filings	3,935	4,588	4,479
Decedent Estates	534	499	477
Guardian/Conservator	793	759	835
Mental Health/Additional Detention/ Treatment	181	195	125
Abbreviated Probate Matters	2,427	3,135	3,031
Dispositions	4,503	3,946	4,387
Pending 12/31	7,551	8,243	7,515

### Comparison 2019 to 2018:

Filings in probate decreased 2%. Filings in Independence increased 1%, and filings in Kansas City decreased 4%.

There was a 4% decrease in decedent estate filings, a 10% increase in filings for guardianship/conservatorship, and 36% decrease in mental health petitions for additional detention and treatment and 3% decrease in abbreviated probate filings.

Within abbreviated filings, there was a 9% decrease in mental health applications for 96 hour detention, evaluation, and treatment\*.

Dispositions increased 11%.

There were 9% fewer cases pending on 12/31/2019 than on 12/31/2018.

### Comparison 2019 to 2015:

Filings increased 14%. Filings in Independence increased 44%, while filings in Kansas City increased 2%.

Filings of decedent estates decreased 11%; guardianship/conservatorship filings increased 5%, mental health filings decreased 31%, and abbreviated probate matters increased 25%.

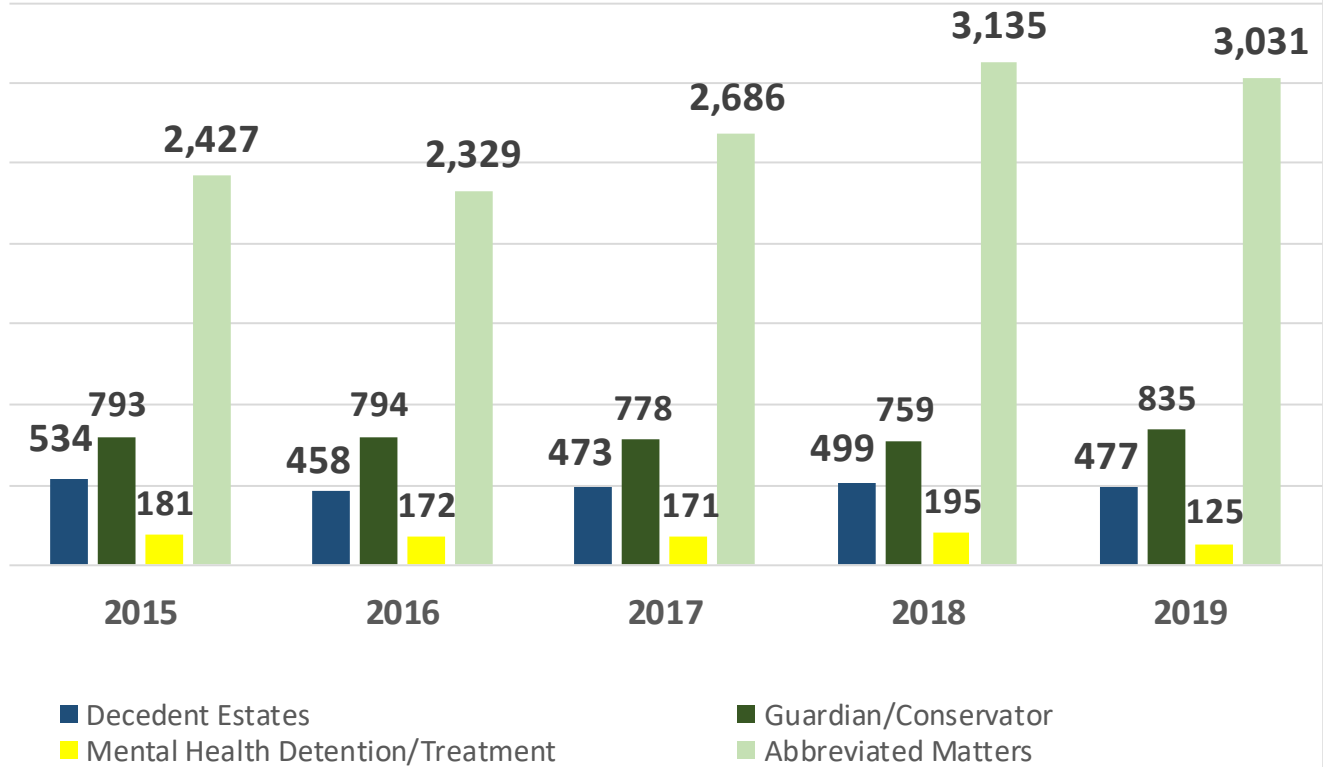
Within abbreviated filings, there was a 2% increase in mental health applications for 96 hour detention, evaluation, and treatment\*.

Dispositions decreased 3%.

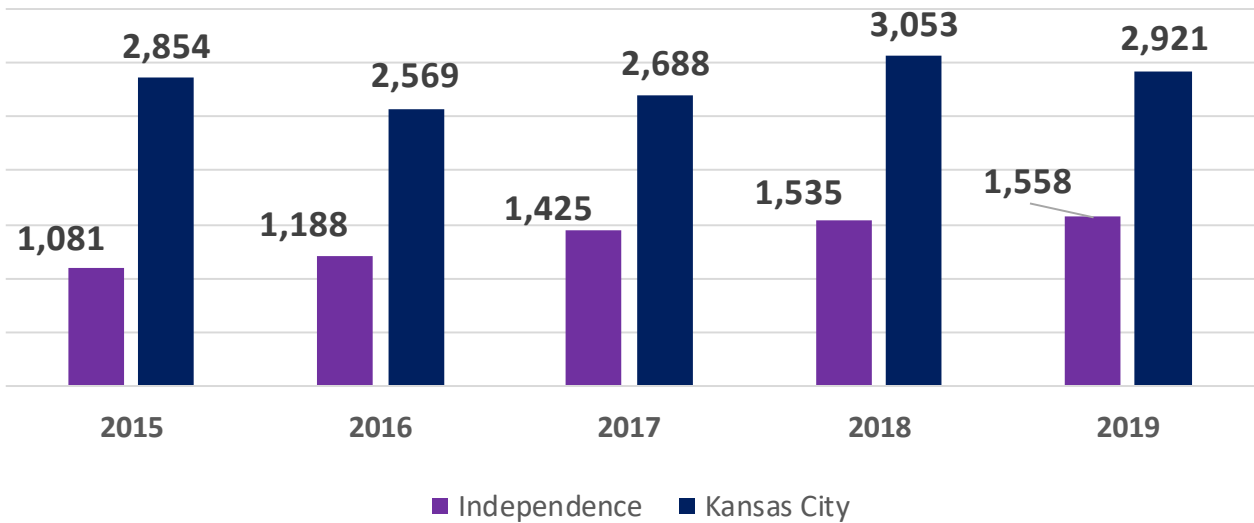
There were less than 1% more cases pending on 12/31/2019 than on 12/31/2015.

**\*Note:** The number of mental health applications for 96 hour detention, evaluation, and treatment filings from 2015 to 2019 are shown in the graph of Mental Health Filings at the end of this section.

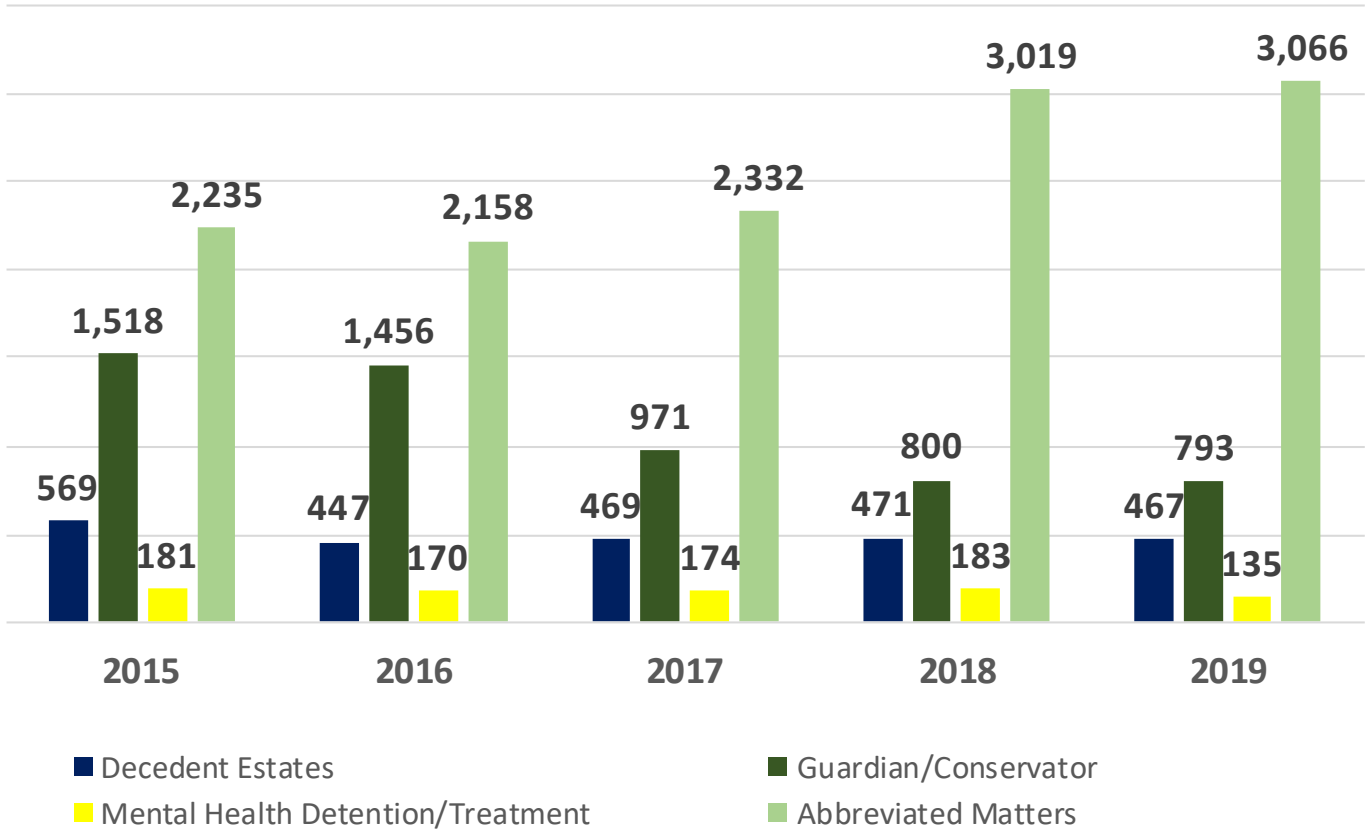
Probate Filings by Type



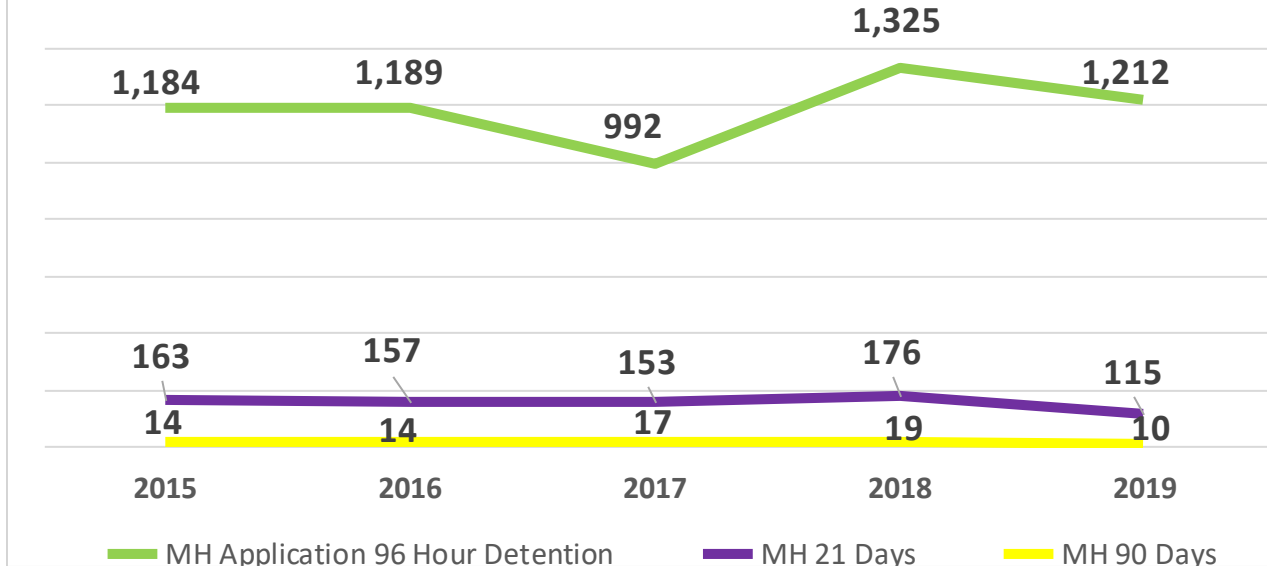
Probate Filings By Location



### Probate Dispositions by Type



### Mental Health Filings



<b>FAMILY COURT</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Referrals Filed	2,606	2,800	2,434
Abuse-Neglect	1,168	1,408	1,337
Delinquency	1,391	1,313	1,031
Status Offenses	47	79	66
Formal Filings by Person (Motions to Modify included)	1,545	1,942	1,633
Abuse-Neglect	822	1,034	845
Delinquency	284	221	161
Status Offenses	14	6	8
Adoptions	290	348	393
Termination of Parental Rights	135	333	226
Certifications Filed	54	51	41
Youth Placed in Residential	70	30	27
<b>Programs and Services</b>			
Youth Starting Probation	175	127	108
Mediation	323	337	351
Connections Program Actual Visits/Exchanges	1,521	1,676	1,512
Parent Awareness	3,197	3,158	2,891
Prevention & Diversion	795	278	344

### **Comparison of 2019 to 2018:**

Referrals decreased 13% and formal filings decreased 16%. Adoption filings increased 13%, and abuse and neglect filings decreased 18%.

Twenty percent fewer certification cases were filed, and youth placed in residential facilities decreased 10%. There was a 15% decrease in youth starting probation.

There was a 8% decrease in Parent Awareness course enrollment and a 10% decrease in Connections Program visits/exchanges, but there was an increase of 4% in mediation and a 24% increase in prevention and diversion.

### **Comparison of 2019 to 2015:**

Referrals decreased 7%, and formal filings increased 6%. Termination of parental rights filings increased 67%.

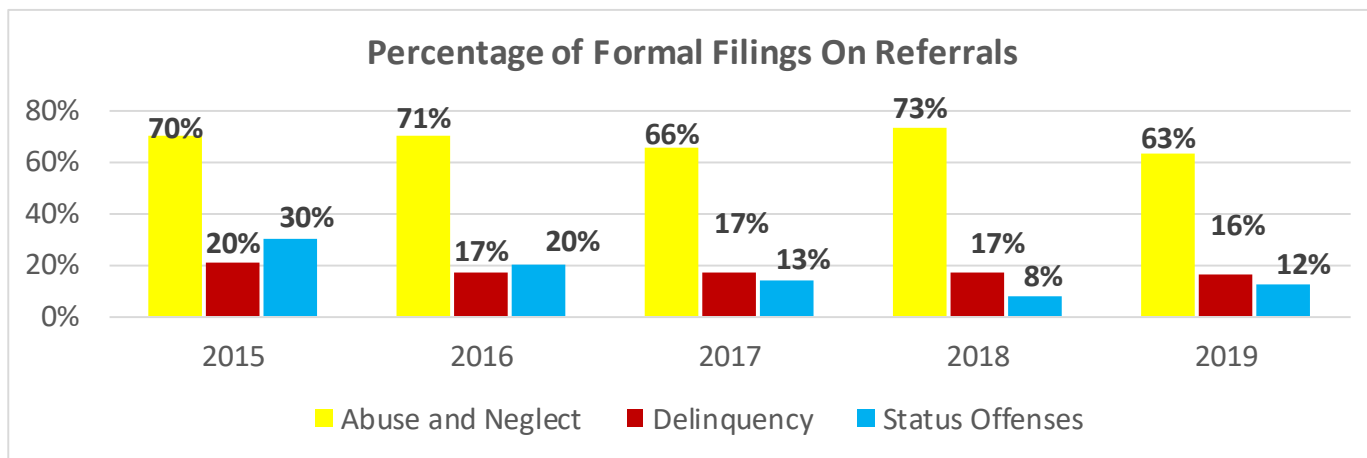
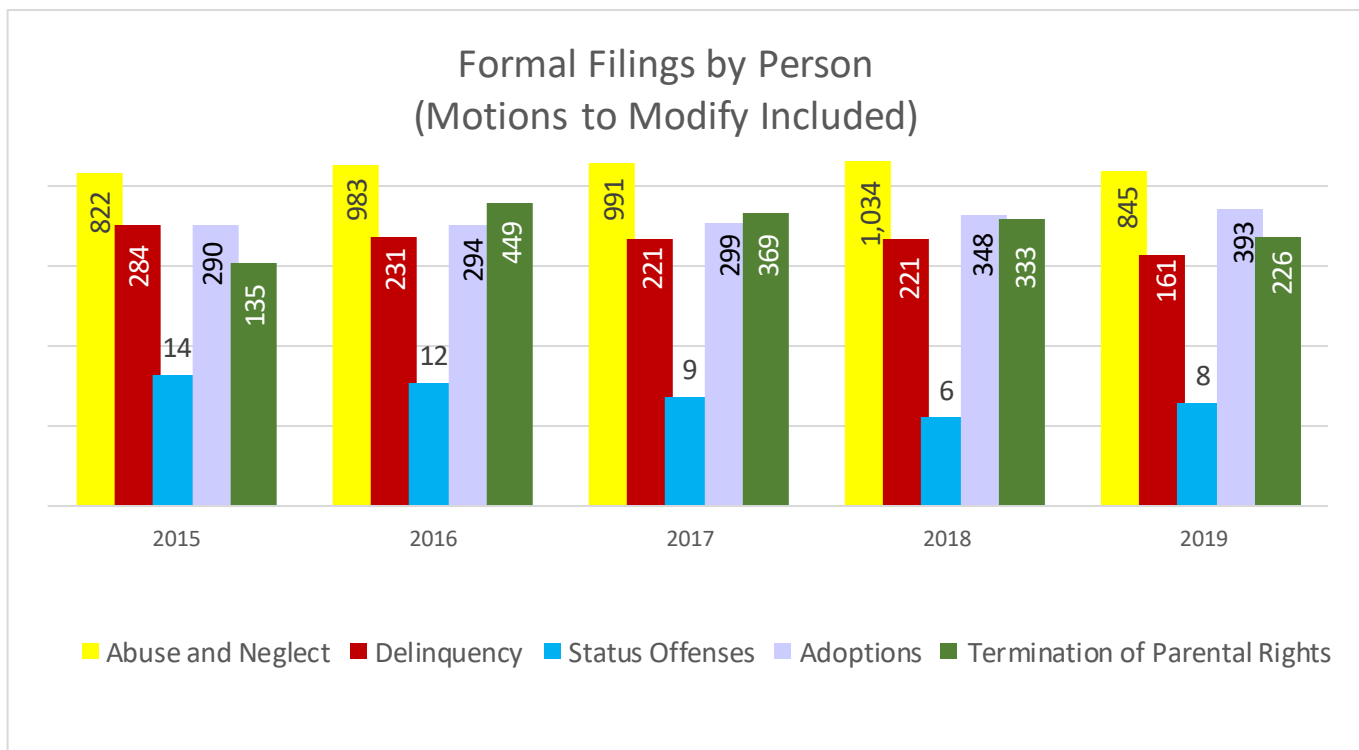
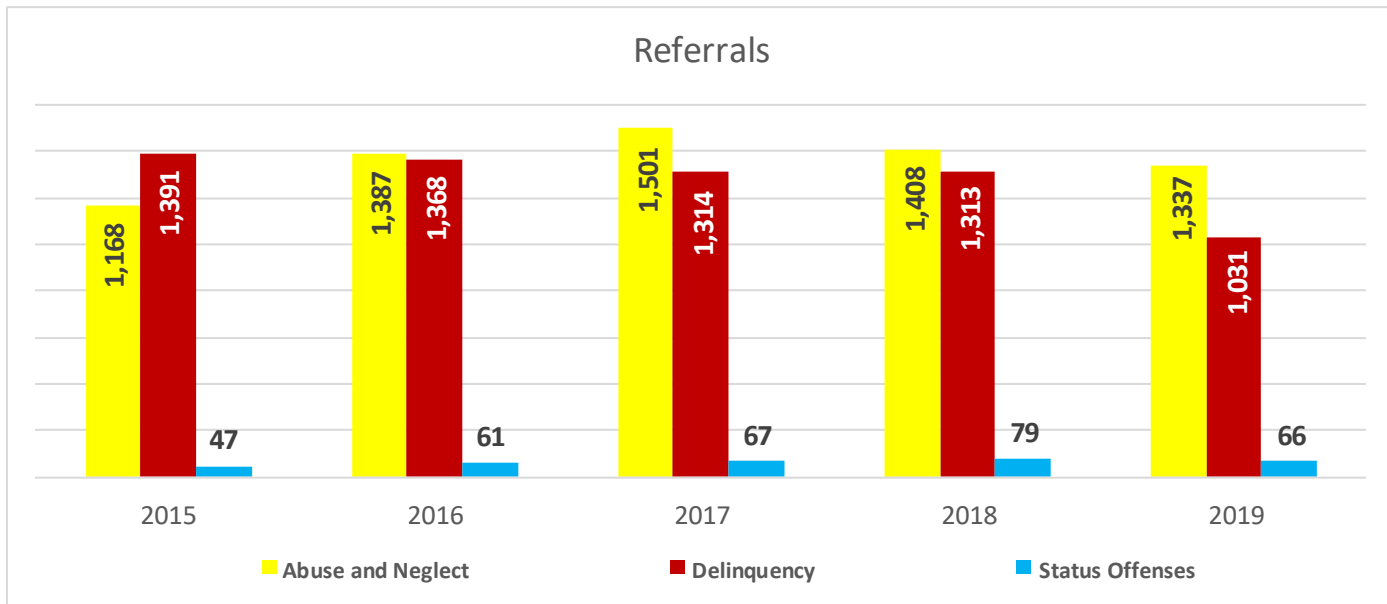
The number of certification cases filed decreased 24%.

There were 61% fewer youth placed in residential facilities, and 38% fewer youth started probation.

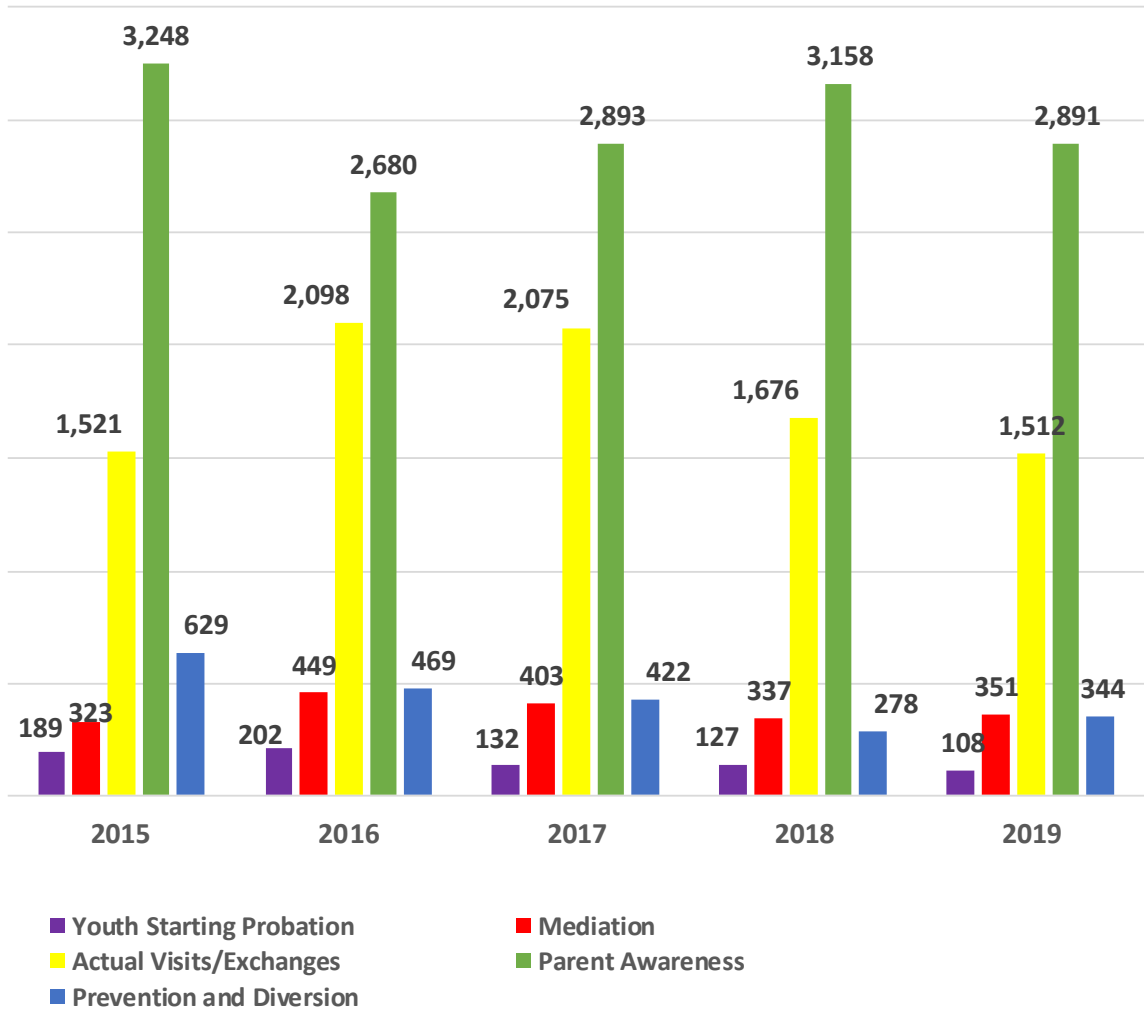
There was a 9% increase in mediation.

Parent Awareness course enrollment declined 10%.

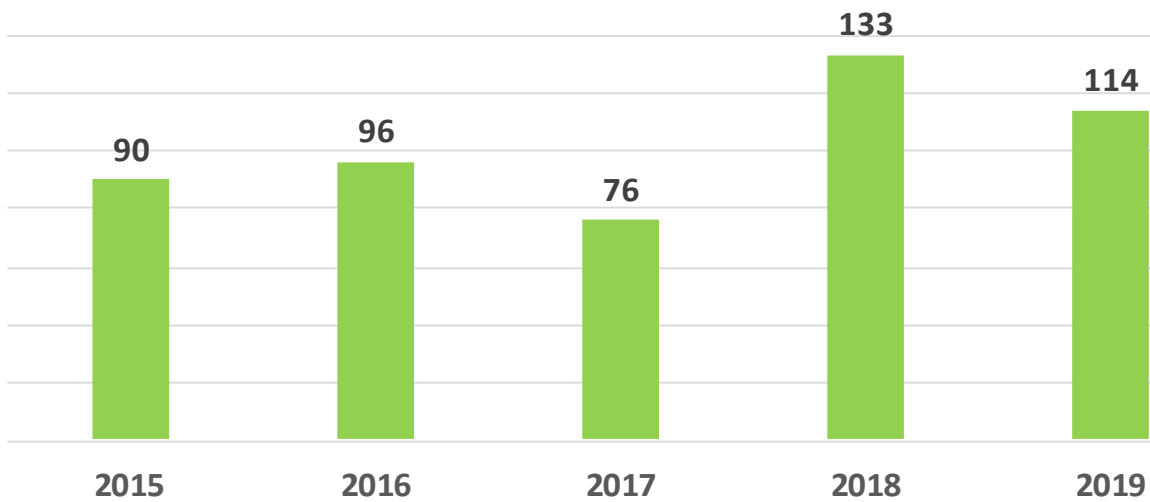
Connections Program visits/exchanges remained virtually unchanged.



### Programs and Services



### Family Drug Court Entering Participants





## CIVIL PROCESS

With regard to service rates on pre-judgment process, Civil Process attempts to establish service at the addresses provided by plaintiffs and their attorneys. If an address is determined to be “bad,” there is an effort to find a “good” address. This effort may be through calling the plaintiff or plaintiff’s attorney or checking with neighbors. Bad addresses prevent proper service and account for 17% (3,267) of the overall pre-judgment papers received. It is also the only variable for establishing service that is out of the control of Civil Process. Excluding bad addresses, the pre-judgment service rate for 2019 would be 70%.

A private auctioneer was utilized for the 2019 Delinquent Land Tax Sale.

Due to staff shortages in the Process Server position, two of our clerks volunteered to assist with service of garnishments and summons to businesses in the Plaza, City Market, and Downtown area.

The Court purchased sixteen Motorola P25 police radios for all of our Field staff, as there had only been six radios previously, and the Jackson County Sheriff’s Office provided dispatch services for all of our personnel.

## CIVIL PROCESS

Pre-judgment Process	2015	2018	2019
Number Served	12,361	12,784	11,225
% Served	63%	66%	58%
Bad Addresses	3,434	3,850	3,267
Unable to Contact	3,853	4,875	4,850
<b>Total Pre-Judgement Process</b>	<b>19,648</b>	<b>21,509</b>	<b>19,342</b>
Post-judgment Process	2015	2018	2019
Levies and Garnishments	12,754	11,204	9,480
Evictions	3,253	4,276	3,968
Attachments and Replevins	143	122	177
Protective Orders Served	1,191	1,222	1,082
Protective Orders-Unable to Contact	3,161	2,861	3,208
<b>Total Post-Judgment Process</b>	<b>19,431</b>	<b>19,685</b>	<b>17,915</b>
<b>Total Papers</b>	<b>39,079</b>	<b>41,194</b>	<b>37,257</b>
Delinquent Land Tax Sales	2015	2018	2019
Parcels Offered for Sale	959	656	487
Parcels Sold	517	438	349
Gross Revenue Generated (\$)	2,989,944	3,590,801	3,319,041

### Comparison of 2019 to 2018:

Pre-judgment papers received decreased 10%, and the number of these served decreased by 12%. The service rate declined 8%.

Post-judgment writs and orders decreased 9%. Among those, there was a 15% decrease in levies and garnishments and a 7% decrease in evictions. Orders of protection served declined 11%, but protective orders returned for unable to contact increased 12%.

Total papers decreased 10%.

The delinquent land tax sales revenue decreased 8% while the parcels offered for sale decreased 26%.

### Comparison of 2019 to 2015:

Pre-judgment papers received decreased 2%, and the number served decreased 9%. The service rate declined 5%.

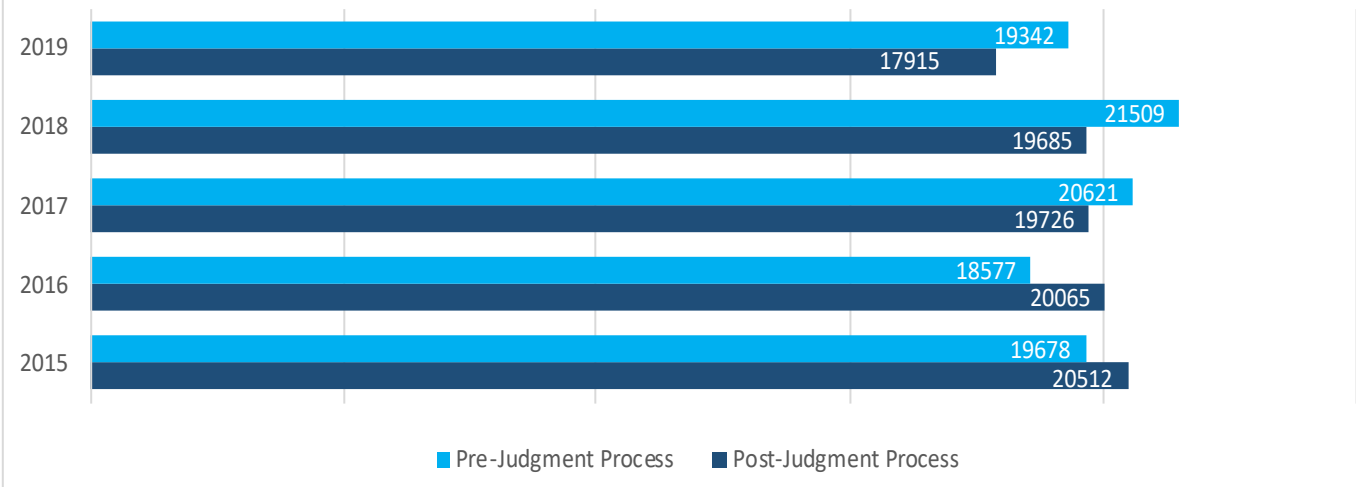
The number of pre-judgment papers that servers were unable to contact increased 26%.

Post-judgment writs and orders decreased 8%. Among these, there was a 26% decrease in levies and garnishments, a 22% increase in evictions, a 9% decrease in serving protective orders, and a 1% increase in returning protective orders for unable to contact.

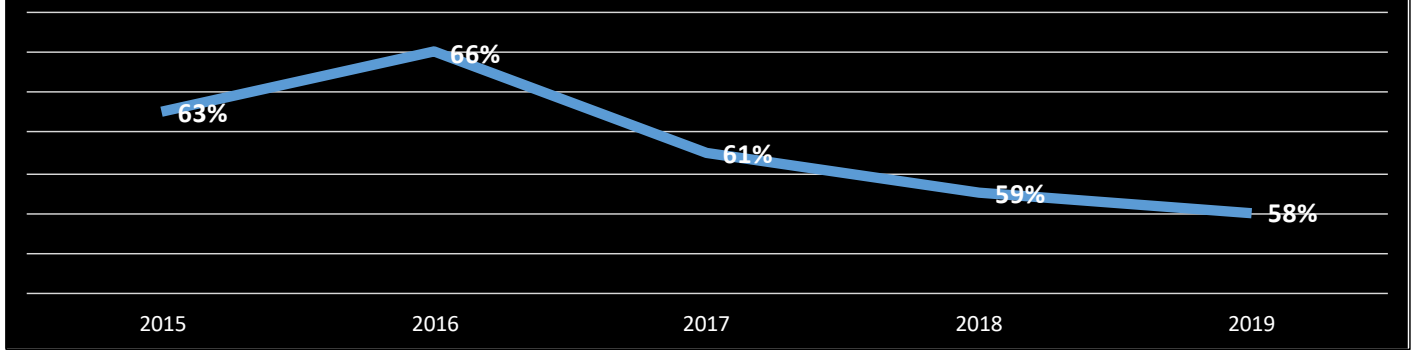
Total papers decreased 5%.

Delinquent land tax sales revenue increased 11% while the parcels offered for sale decreased 49%.

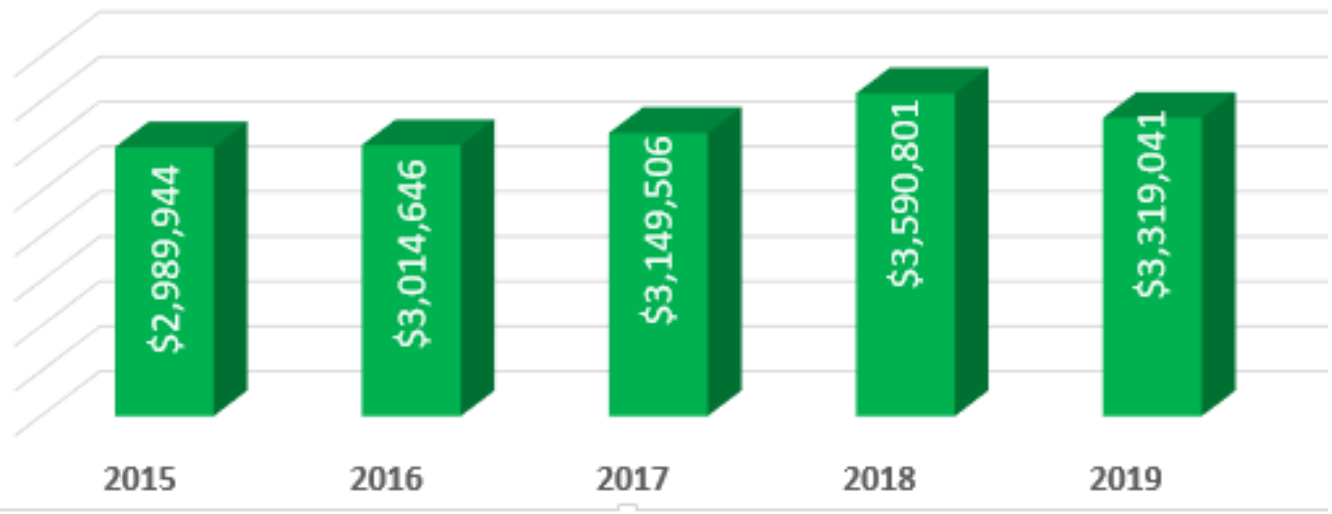
### Civil Process Workloads



### Pre-Judgment Service Returns



### Delinquent Land Tax Gross Sales



DLT Parcels	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
	959	826	679	656	487

## JURY

2019 saw the greatest use to date of the jury room in the Eastern Jackson County Courthouse (EJCCH) in Independence, which opened in 2015. The availability of this much larger jury assembly room at the EJCCH became critical for jury operations when two successive flooding events in the Kansas City courthouse early in 2019 caused major damage. Not only were five of the Court's largest trial courtrooms destroyed, but, to a more limited degree, jury facilities were affected. Most significant, however, was the shutdown of one-half of the elevators in the building.

These events forced the jury office to move a significant portion of its processes to the EJCCH location until early June. Kansas City divisions utilized jurors summoned to the EJCCH, conducting voir dire in either an empty courtroom or the jury assembly room, and sometimes also trying cases at that location. Due to the increased need for jurors at the EJCCH, the jury office began summoning an additional pool of jurors to the EJCCH on Tuesdays, similar to the existing practice in Kansas City. Given the uncertainty of when the Kansas City location would again be able to handle the presence of a larger number of jurors, however, the Court continued to summon jurors for both locations, and cancelled them when it could not utilize them at the location they were summoned.

The increase in summons issued between the two locations, along with the increased cancellation of jurors, resulted in a decrease in juror yield of over seven percent. As noted in last year's report, jury management software implemented in 2018 allows the Court to better oversee and manage the size of the jury pools it brings in on a given day as needs change. As also noted, however, while cancelling unneeded jurors is a good jury management practice, saving resources for both the Court and jurors, it lowers the yield calculated from issued summons. In addition, despite efforts to provide jurors and alternate locations for trials, there were significantly fewer jury-tried cases in 2019 than in prior years.

2019 also brought about a change in the way division requests for jury panels are submitted to the jury office. The Court's new automated process, which allows requests to be submitted through its case management system, JIS, replaced a prior manual process in which requests were printed and sorted by hand. The new process allows jury staff to run a Cognos report listing all active requests by week. This report is sent to the divisions for review the week before jurors are to report, providing them an opportunity to better manage their pending requests. Along with the change in process, cases' prioritization also changed. To the degree possible, this priority is programmed into the Cognos report, removing the need for significant manual prioritization by jury staff. Absent this new process, the jury office's ability to manage the jury process during and subsequent to the flooding events during 2019 would have been diminished even further.

<b>JURY</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Trials</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>112</b>
Civil	64	60	52
Criminal	65	69	60
<b>Available Jurors</b>	<b>16,558</b>	<b>16,813</b>	<b>15,161</b>
Independence	4,820	6,119	7,478
Kansas City	11,738	10,694	7,683
<b>Jurors Sent to Divisions</b>	<b>7,739</b>	<b>8,307</b>	<b>7,717</b>
Independence	1,854	2,625	3,711
Kansas City	5,885	5,682	4,006
Juror Yield	32%	31%	24%
Percentage Sent for Jury Selection	46%	49%	47%
Percentage Selected as Jurors	12%	11%	10%

#### **Comparison 2019 to 2018:**

The number of jury trials decreased 13%.

Available jurors decreased 10%.

The number of jurors sent to divisions decreased 7%.

Juror yield from those summoned declined 7%.

The percentage of available jurors sent for jury selection decreased 2%, and the percentage selected as jurors decreased 1%.

#### **Comparison 2019 to 2015:**

The number of jury trials decreased 13%.

Available jurors decreased 8%.

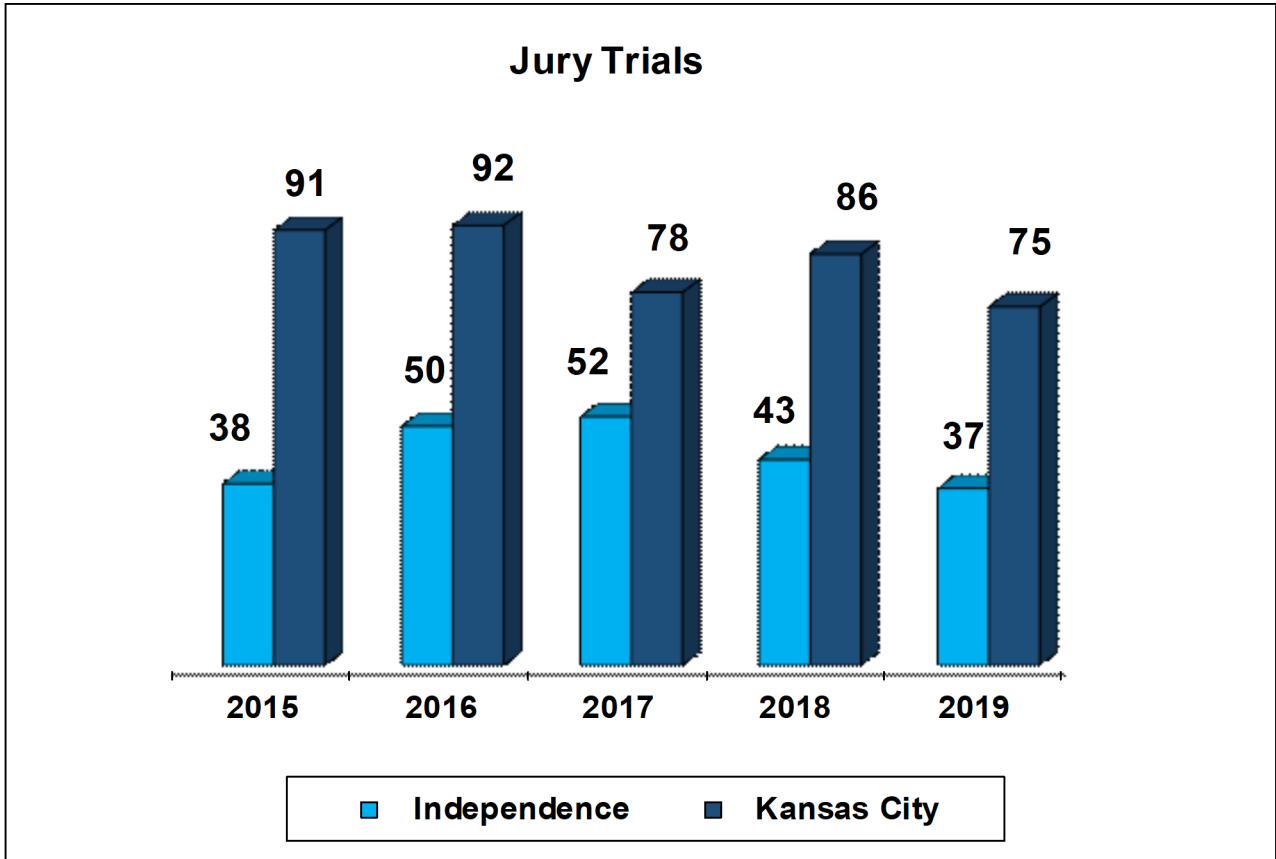
The number of jurors sent to divisions increased remain virtually unchanged.

Juror yield declined 8%.

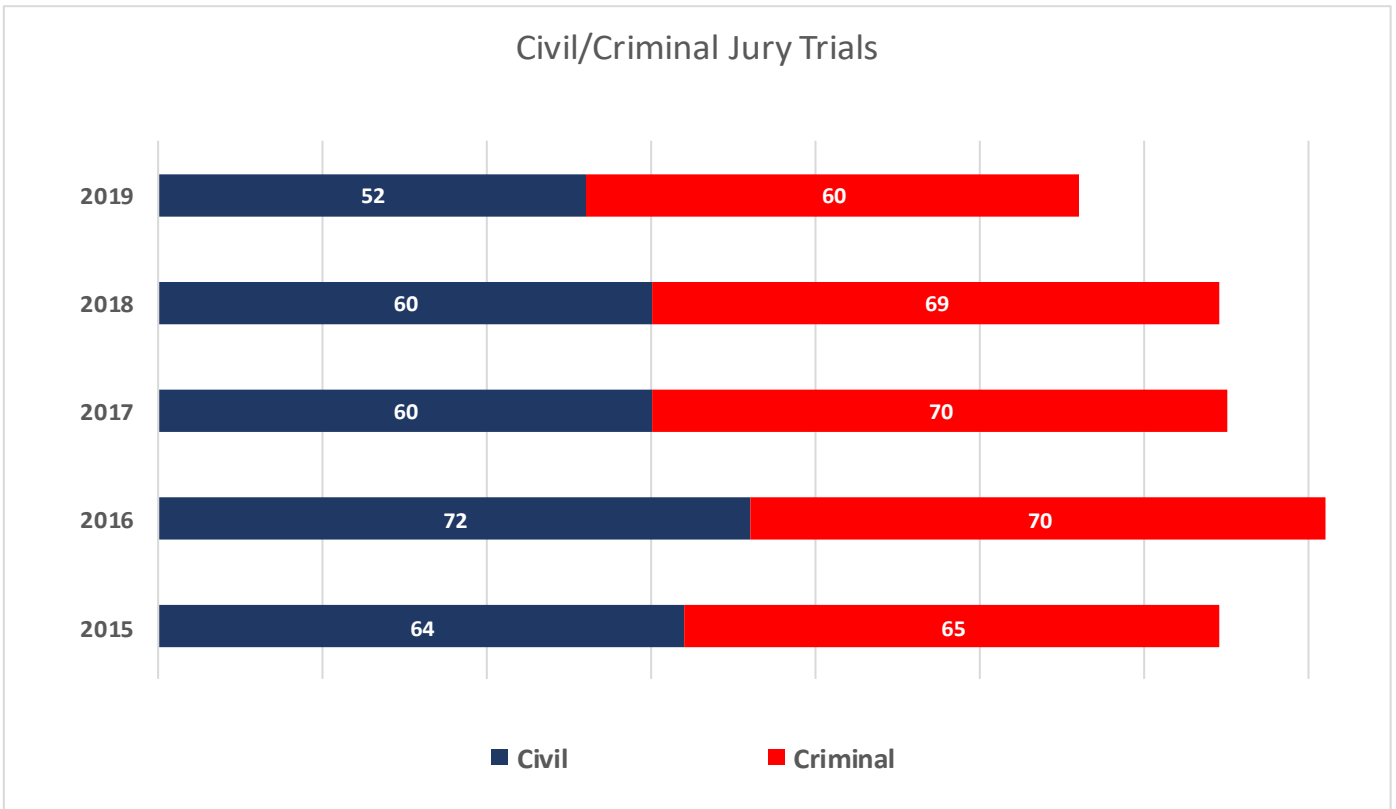
The percentage of available jurors sent for jury selection increased 1% and the percentage selected as jurors decreased 2%.

Of the juries sworn in civil cases in 2019, 31% were for employment discrimination cases, 10% were for contract cases, and 10% were for vehicular personal injury cases.

In criminal cases, 35% of the juries sworn were for homicides, 10% were for assaults, 8% were for sodomy, and another 8% were for statutory rape.



- KC divisions had 75 jury trials in 2019; Independence divisions had 37.
- 61 jury trials used jurors initially reporting to Kansas City; 51 used jurors initially reporting to Independence.



<b>COURT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Help Desk Tickets	10,681	8,099	8,275
Tickets Opened			
JIS	179	137	218
EPICOR	102	129	175
Delinquent Land Tax	96	149	120
Unclaimed Property	18	20	78
Mobile Devices	213	218	147
Operations	392	361	355
Security	441	439	394

### Comparison of 2019 to 2018:

Overall Help Desk tickets increased 2%.

In tickets opened, those for JIS increased 59%, for EPICOR 36%, and for Unclaimed Property 290%.

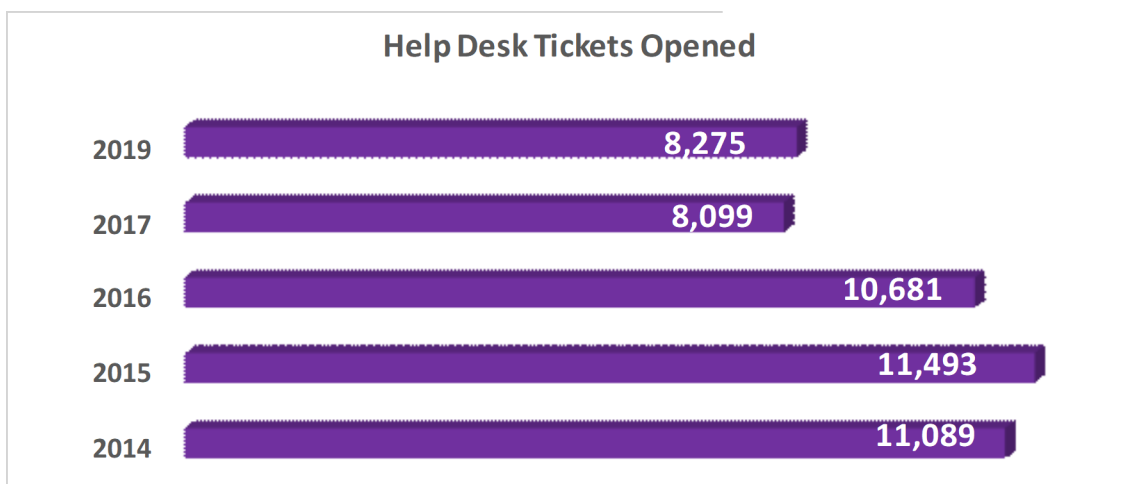
But tickets opened for Delinquent Land Tax decreased 19%, for Mobile Devices 33%, for Operations 2%, and for Security 10%.

### Comparison of 2019 to 2017:

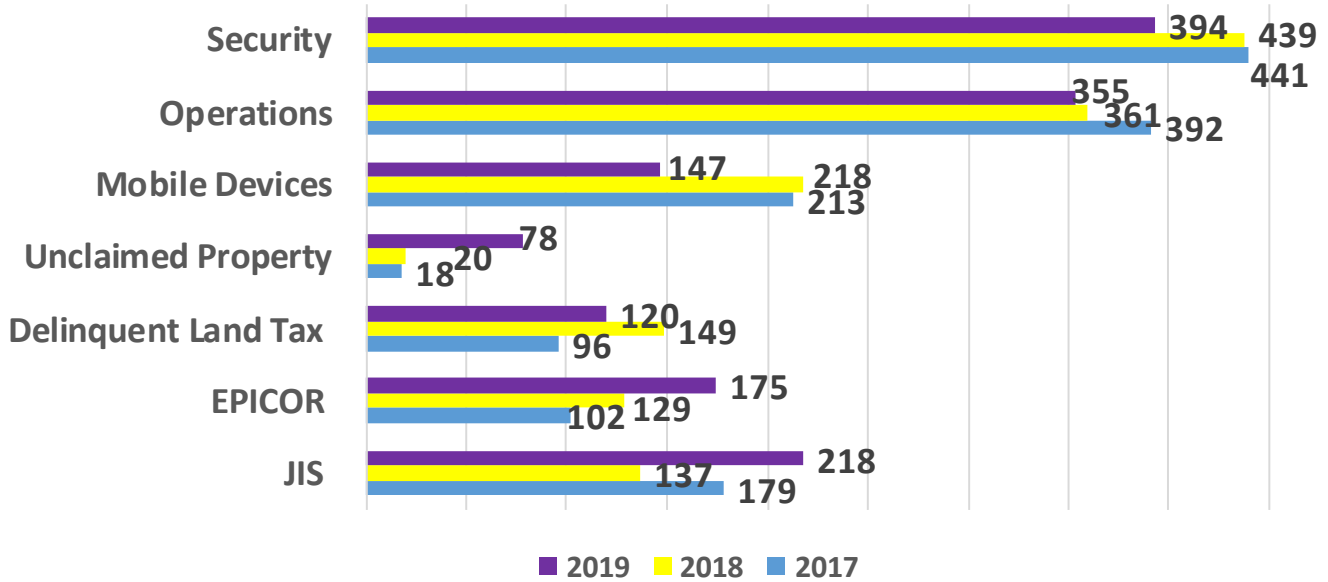
Overall Help Desk tickets declined 23%.

In tickets opened, those for JIS increased 22%, EPICOR 72%, Delinquent Land Tax 25%, and Unclaimed Property 333%.

Tickets opened for Mobile Devices decreased 31%, Operations 9%, and Security 11%.



### PROJECT RELATED HELP DESK TICKETS OPENED 2017-2019



### 2019 Project-Related Tickets

