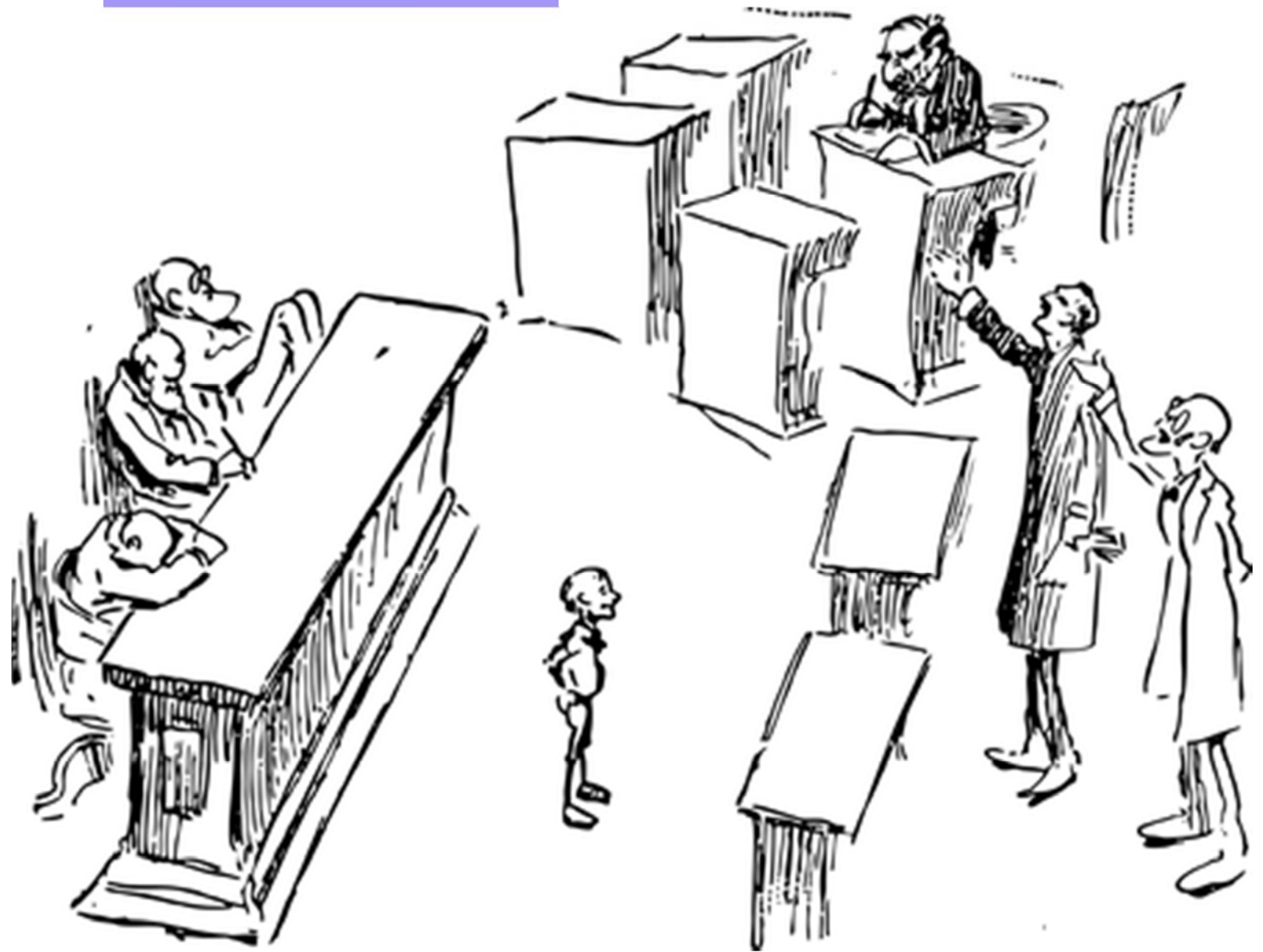


2017 ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT



SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

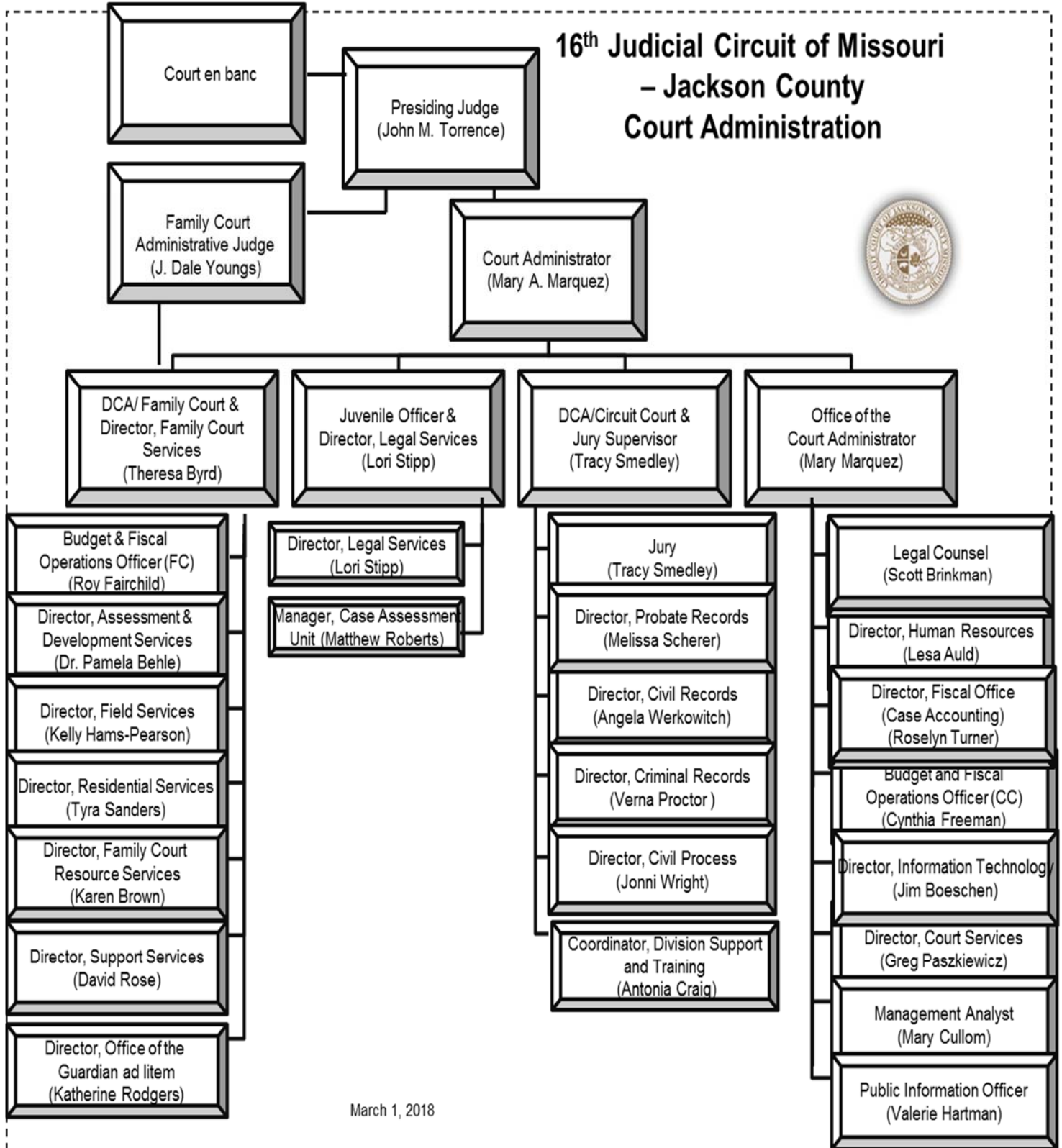
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THE SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

	Presiding Judge John M. Torrence
Division 1	Circuit Judge Sandra C. Midkiff
Division 2	Circuit Judge Kenneth R. Garrett III
Division 3	Circuit Judge David M. Byrn
Division 4	Circuit Judge Justine E. Del Muro
Division 5	Circuit Judge James F. Kanatzar
Division 6	Circuit Judge J. Dale Youngs
Division 7	Circuit Judge S. Margene Burnett
Division 8	Circuit Judge Bryan E. Round
Division 9	Circuit Judge Joel F. Fahnstock
Division 10	Circuit Judge Patrick W. Campbell
Division 11	Circuit Judge George E. Wolf
Division 12	Circuit Judge Jennifer M. Phillips
Division 13	Circuit Judge Charles H. McKenzie
Division 14	Circuit Judge John M. Torrence
Division 15	Circuit Judge Jalilah Otto
Division 16	Circuit Judge Marco A. Roldan
Division 17	Circuit Judge Jack R. Grate
Division 18	Circuit Judge Kevin D. Harrell
Division 19	Circuit Judge Mark A. Styles, Jr. Commissioner Scott R. Manuel Dep. Commissioner Jerri J. Zhang
Division 25	Associate Circuit Judge Richard T. Standridge
Division 26	Vacant
Division 27	Associate Circuit Judge Gregory B. Gillis
Division 28	Associate Circuit Judge Jeffrey C. Keal
Division 29	Associate Circuit Judge Janette K. Rodecap
Division 30	Associate Circuit Judge Twila K. Rigby
Division 31	Associate Circuit Judge Mary F. Weir
Division 32	Associate Circuit Judge Robert L. Trout
Division 33	Associate Circuit Judge Jeffrey L. Bushur
Division 34	Associate Circuit Judge Susan E. Long
Division 40	Commissioner William R. Jackson III
Division 41	Vacant
Division 42	Commissioner Sherrill L. Rosen
Division 43	Commissioner David P. Kimminau
Division 44	Commissioner Nancy Alemifar
Division 50	Commissioner David J. Fry
Court Administrator	Mary A. Marquez
Deputy Court Admin./Family Court Services	Theresa Byrd
Deputy Court Admin./Jury Supervisor	Tracy L. Smedley

ORGANIZATION CHART



COURT ADMINISTRATOR'S INTRODUCTION

2017, as busy as it was, was a typical year for a jurisdiction of this size. The Court continues to perform its critical functions of resolving disputes and providing access to justice due to the dedicated and hard-working judiciary and staff.

While there was some judicial officer turnover in 2017, the efforts of fellow judicial officers and visiting judges helped maintain the excellent work that is done daily. We said good-bye to Judge Brent Powell who was appointed to the Supreme Court by Governor Eric Greitens and welcomed Judge George Wolf to Division 11. Judge Robert Schieber retired from the bench and Judge Jalilah Otto was appointed to Division 15 and took over the responsibilities of the division while also helping to cover Division 26.

Although there has been some changes in the types of cases filed, the overall filings in this jurisdiction have remained relatively unchanged over the last five years. Approximately, 62,600 cases were filed in 2017. The Court is meeting the Supreme Court's time standards in most categories and some areas have improved over the last five years and is generally comparable to St. Louis County and City.

2017 saw the first municipality in the county, Lake Tapawingo, disband its municipal court and request the ability to hear cases within an associate division.

The Family Court has continued both its Annie E. Casey Foundation Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI), first implemented in 2006, and its Casey Family Foundation Judicial Engagement Program (JEP) which is designed to safely reduce the number of children in foster care. JDAI continues to be very successful and results in far fewer youth being placed in secure detention without risking public safety. In 2017, JEP produced a series of videos for court appointed attorneys to assist them in representing parents and children in juvenile cases.

Circuit Civil filings have increased by 5% over 2016 with the greatest number of cases continuing to be suits on account, suits for breach of contract, and rent and possession. Associate civil filings have slightly increased by 2% over 2016. Domestic relations case filings remained unchanged over 2016 and decreased by 10% within the last five years. Domestic violence filings were up about 3% over 2016 and up 8% over the last five years. The number of pro se domestic filings continues to rise. Pro se filings have increased from 21% to 25% since 2013.

Criminal felony filings decreased by 10% from 2016 filings; however, the percentage of increase from 2013 to 2017 is 18%. Misdemeanor filings decreased by 15% over 2016.

Jury trials have once again decreased in 2017 from 142 jury trials in 2016 to 130 in 2017 which is a 8% decrease. The number of jury trials appears to have stabilized in the 130 – 135 range. Criminal jury trials have surpassed civil jury trials. Seventy jury trials were criminal while 60 were civil cases. Approximately 30% of the jury trials were held at Eastern Jackson County Courthouse while 70% of the jury trials were held at the downtown KC Courthouse. The civil case types with the greatest percentage of jury trials were employment discrimination, contracts, and personal injury-vehicular. On the criminal side, the most jury trials held in criminal cases are those with charge(s) of sodomy, homicide, and robbery.

Juvenile delinquency filings were down significantly by 19% over 2016. While child abuse and neglect referrals were up by 8%; filings were down by 10%. Termination for parental rights filings decreased in 2017 by 18%. Due to a concerted effort by the Juvenile Officer to increase timeliness to permanency for children, termination of parental rights cases overall has increased over the last five years from 112 filings in 2013 to 229 in 2017. Adoption filings slightly increased. Attendance at parent education programs offered by Family Court Resource Services has increased by 12% over 2016's numbers and the number of supervised visits and exchange has decreased by 10%.

Abbreviated probate matters filings increased by 20% over 2016. Decedent estate filings and guardian/conservatorship filings increased 3% and decreased by 2% respectively. Mental health filings remain almost identical to 2016 filings. While adversary proceedings decreased by 34% over 2016, those filed in Independence increased 52% over 2016.

Civil Process. With a slight increase in the overall filings, the numbers of pre- and post-judgment papers served were up by 11% and down by 2% respectively, while the delinquent land tax sale conducted by the Court resulted in just over \$3.1 Million in sales, about 39% higher than sales in 2013.

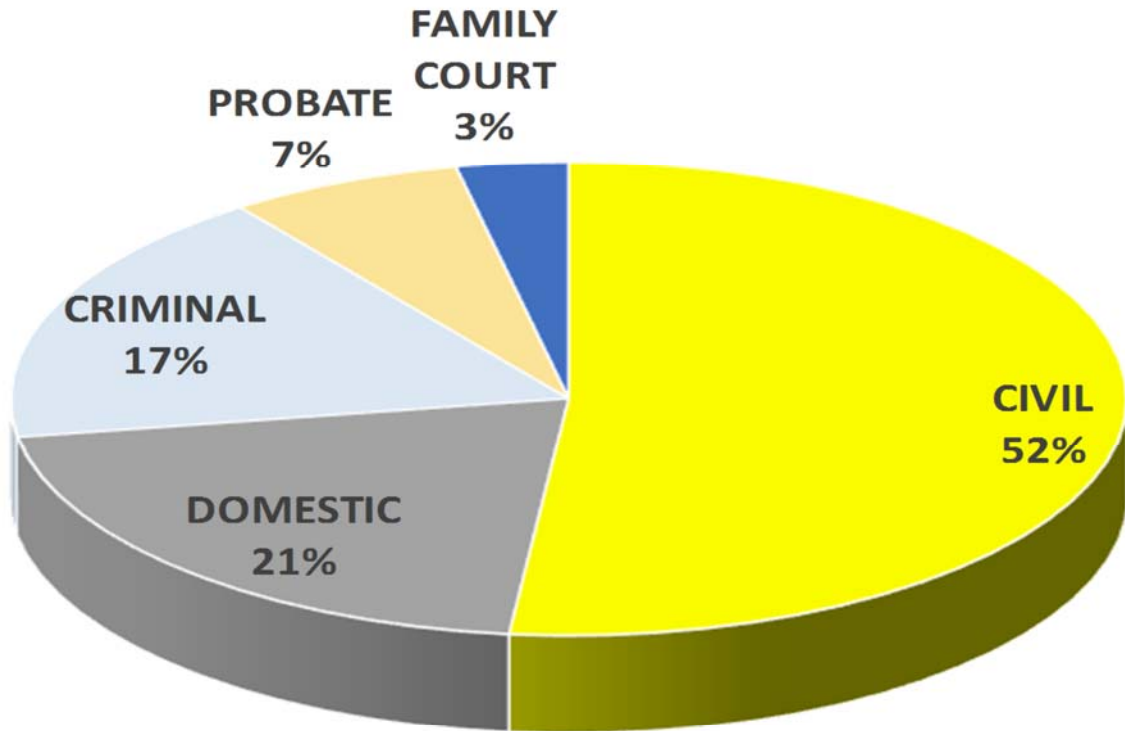
The Court remains focused on improving our existing programs and services. In April 2017, the Court consolidated many of its fiscal matters in Civil, Criminal, and Probate cases within one department. Our focus is to be "audit ready" every day and to strengthen our internal controls in those areas.

Please see the pages following this section for details regarding case categories, case types, charges, performance standards, and other details.

2018 will be another busy year as we continue to serve the community and improve our programs and services. I look forward to another successful year as we continue to collectively serve those that appear before the Court every day as well as the community in general.



Court Administrator



FILINGS 2017

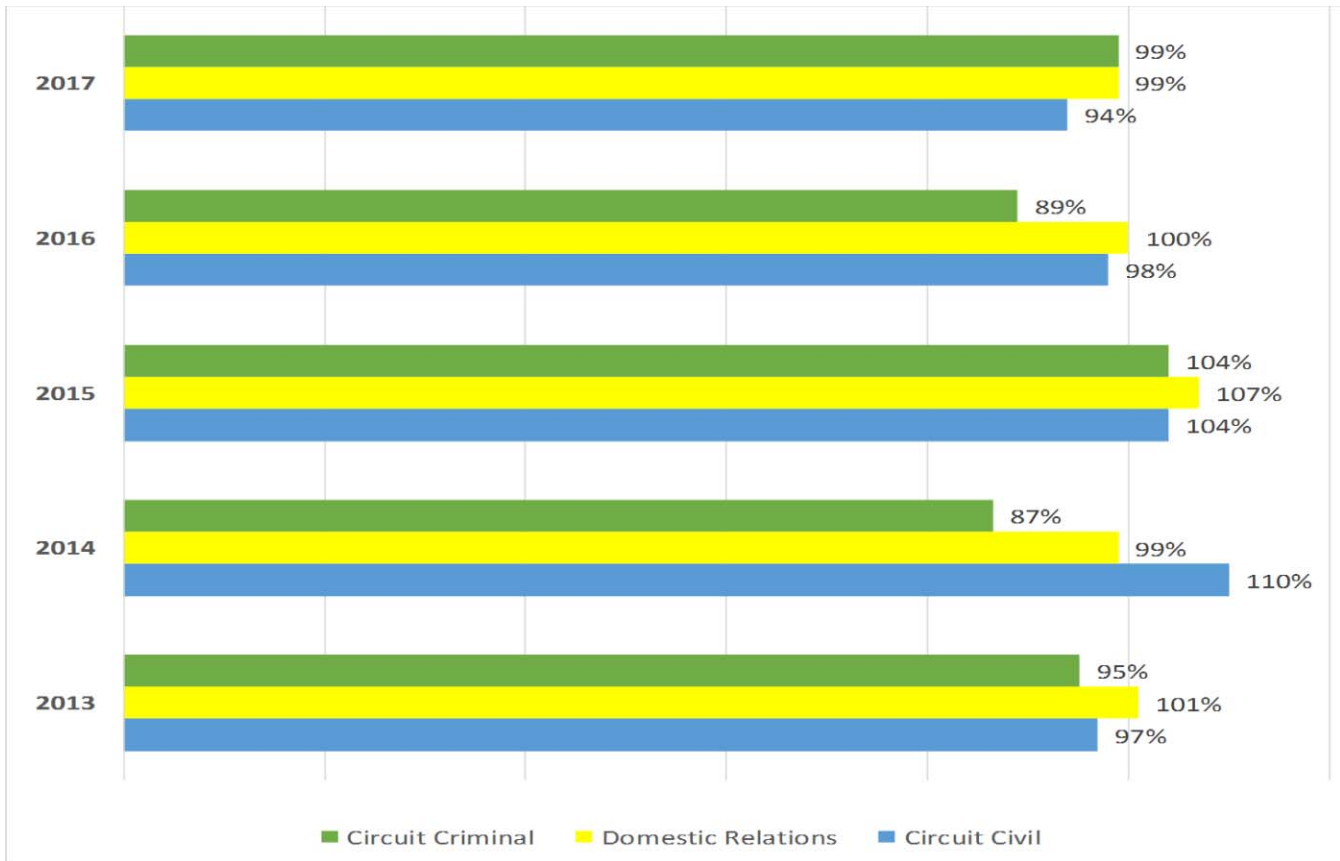
Note: The Criminal/Traffic category includes associate and circuit felony and misdemeanor filings as well as traffic cases and municipal appeals.

<u>TOTAL FILINGS</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
CIVIL CIRCUIT	3,667	3,495	3,691
ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT	28,737	27,740	28,440
DOMESTIC RELATIONS	6,278	5,648	5,655
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	6,665	6,968	7,204
FELONY	3,462	4,691	4,969
MISDEMEANOR	3,204	3,700	3,160
MUNICIPAL APPEALS	254	167	177
TRAFFIC	3,937	3,673	2,615
DRUG COURT	251	344	477
PROBATE	4,344	3,753	4,222
FAMILY COURT	1,894	2,127	2,016
	62,693	62,306	62,626

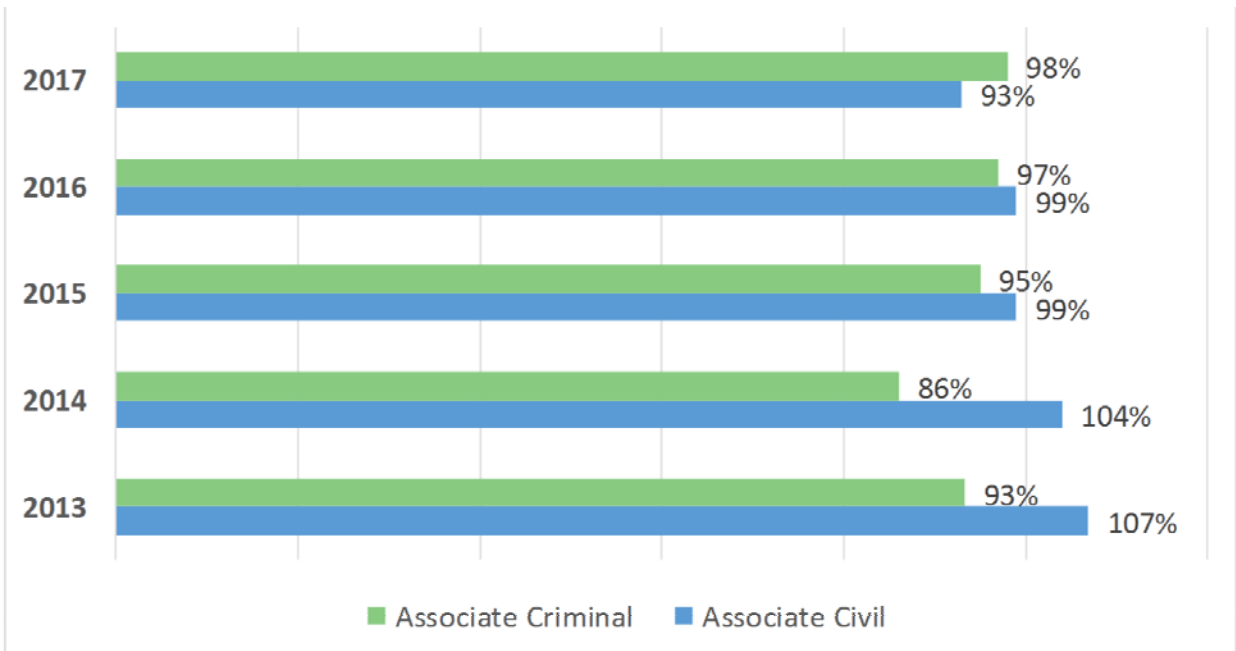
Although there has been a fluctuation in the individual types of cases filed with the Circuit Court for Jackson County over the last five years, the total filings in the Court have been largely unchanged.

COURT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

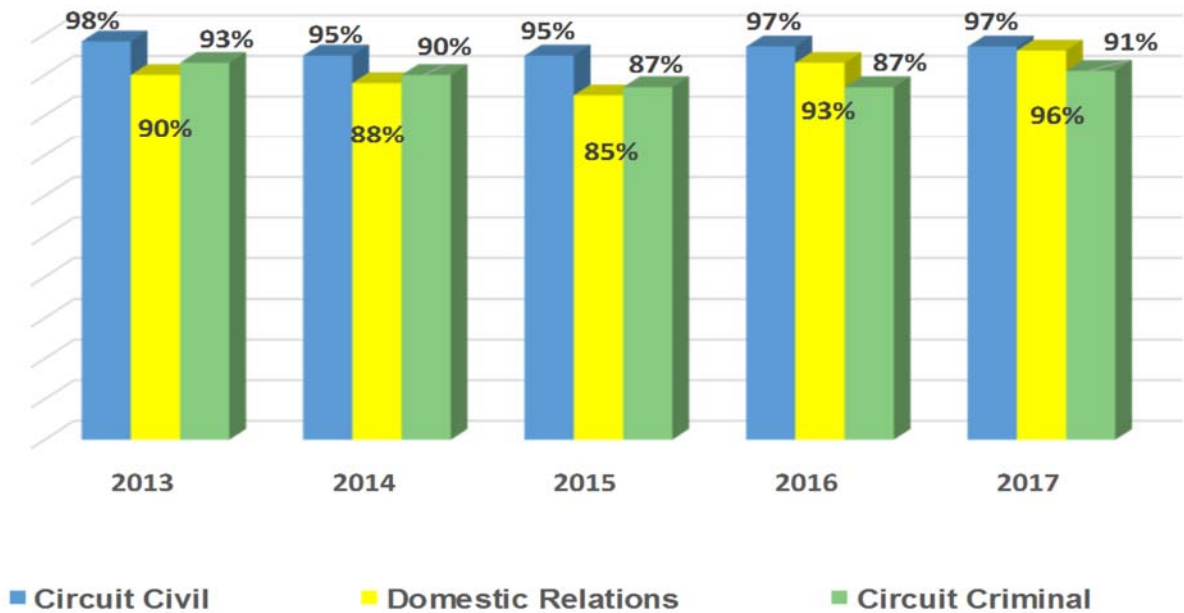
CLEARANCE RATES



Clearance rates show the ratio of dispositions to filings. A clearance rate of 100% is obtained when the number of dispositions in the year equals the number of cases filed in that year. **Note:** The Court had multiple judicial vacancies in 2013 and two vacancies in 2017.



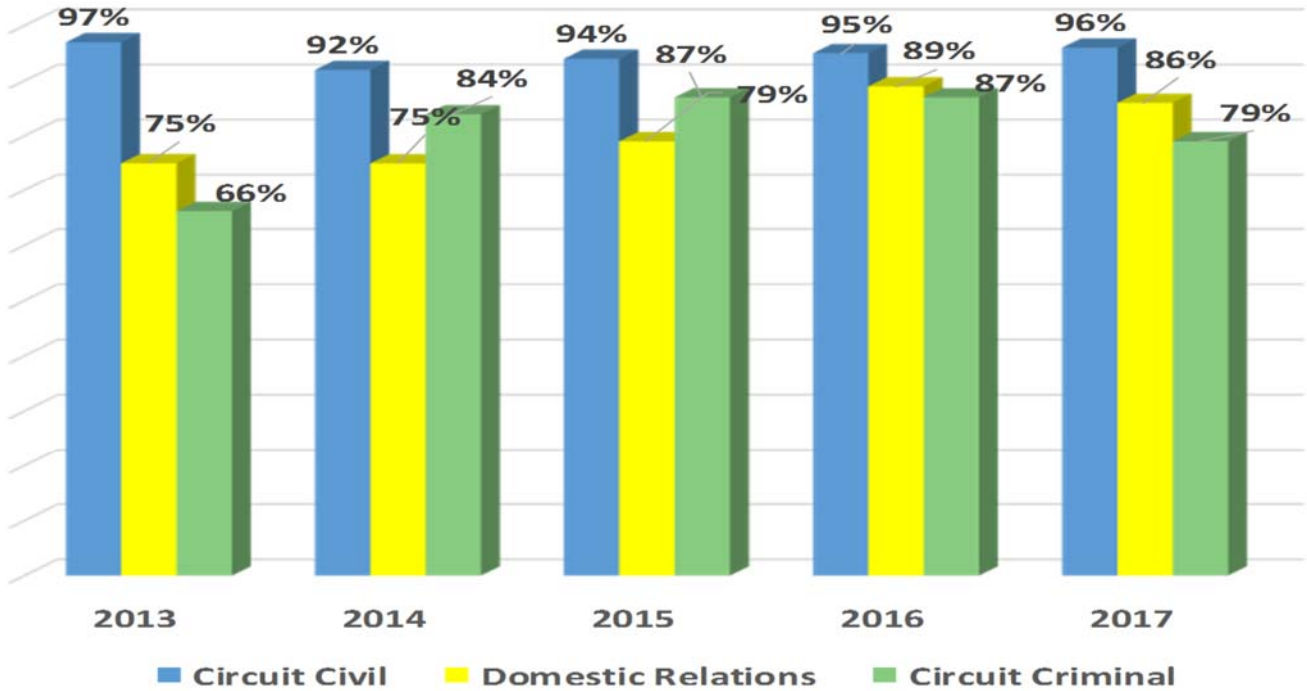
TIME TO DISPOSITION



Time standards establish the period in which 95% of filings should be disposed. The standards are 240 days for Associate Criminal, 360 days for Associate Civil, 420 days for both Circuit Criminal and for Domestic, and 900 days for Circuit Civil cases.

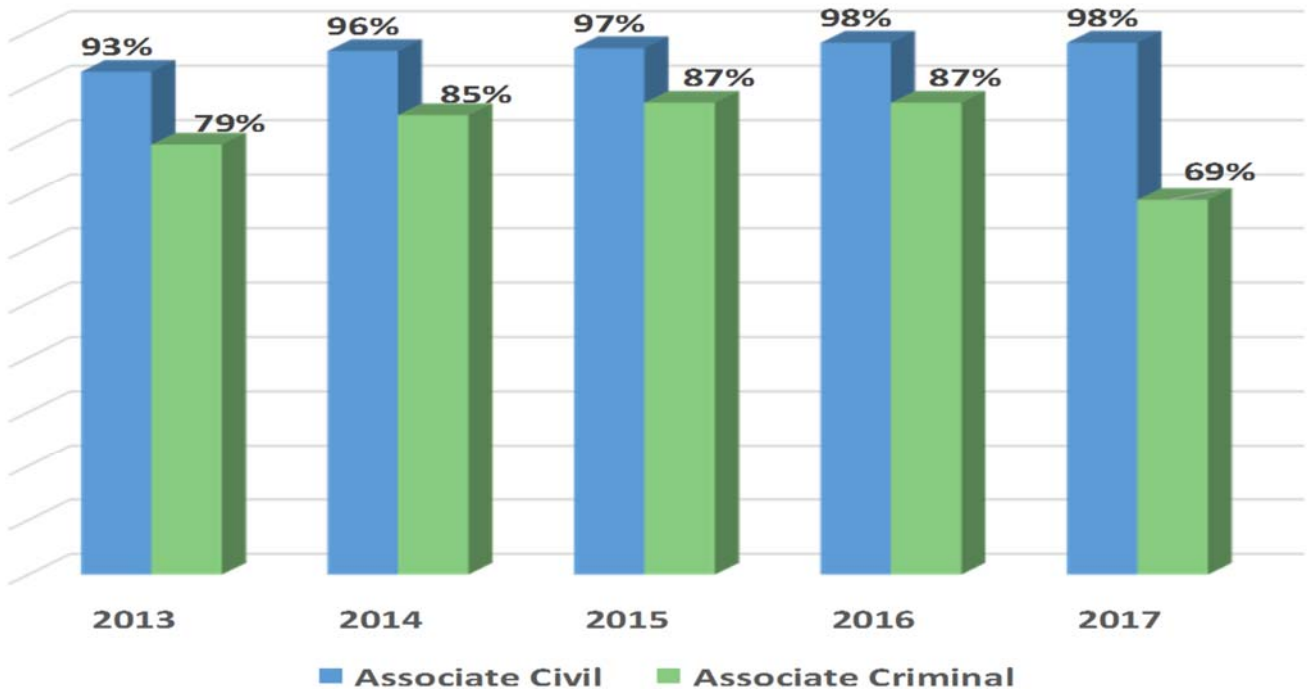


AGE OF PENDING CASELOAD ON DECEMBER 31



The same time standards as previously noted are used to establish measures for pending cases. 95% of pending cases should be within these standards.

AGE OF PENDING CASELOAD ON DECEMBER 31



CIVIL RECORDS

The first quarter of 2017 saw the culmination of nearly two years' worth of work when the proposed centralized accounting unit moved from "proposed" to reality. The creation of this unit meant a significant shift in functions within the Civil Records Department, and a corresponding reduction in the number of employees assigned to the department. Physical restructuring and remodeling to support the new organizational structure were completed in the fall and served as the final step in the transition process.

Department management began exploring different options for streamlining case processing, and implemented some promising changes as a result. These changes will aid department staff in adjusting to the number of case filings and shifts in staffing patterns and numbers.

CIVIL

Circuit Civil	2013	2016	2017
Filings	3,667	3,499	3,691
Dispositions	3,562	3,416	3,482
Jury Trials	54	51	46
Court Trials	227	330	446
Pending Cases 12/31	3,131	2,750	2,962
Associate Circuit Civil	2013	2016	2017
Filings	28,743	27,747	28,440
Dispositions	30,728	27,565	26,327
Jury Trials	3	3	3
Court Trials	1,875	1,708	1,361
Pending Cases 12/31	8,207	7,370	9,491

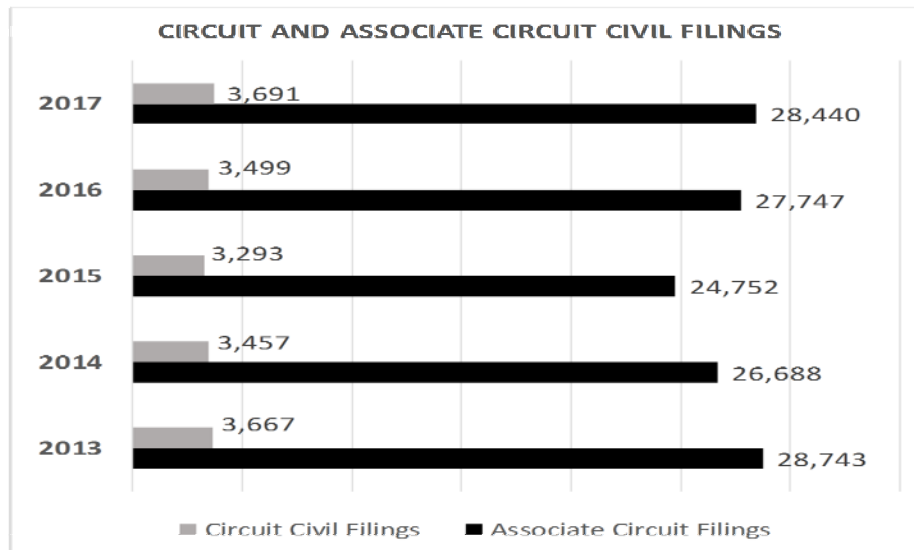
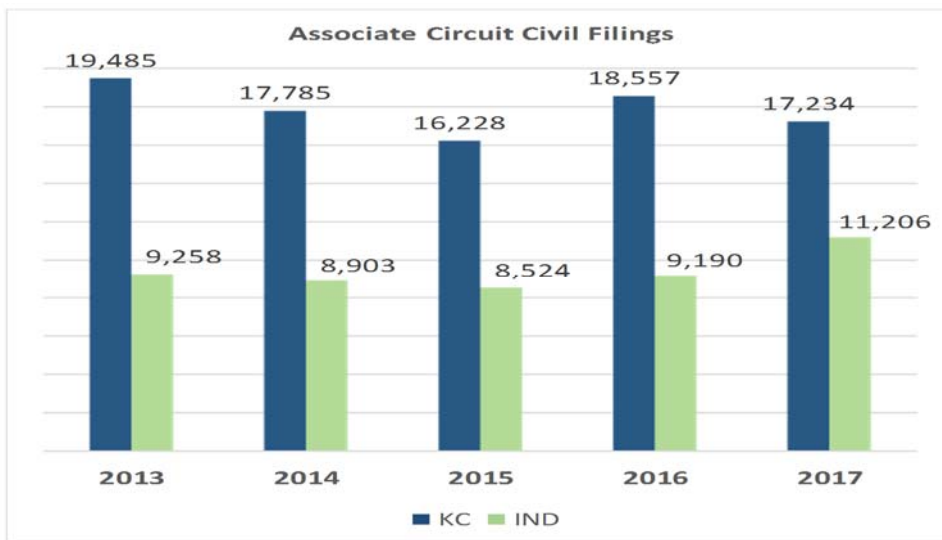
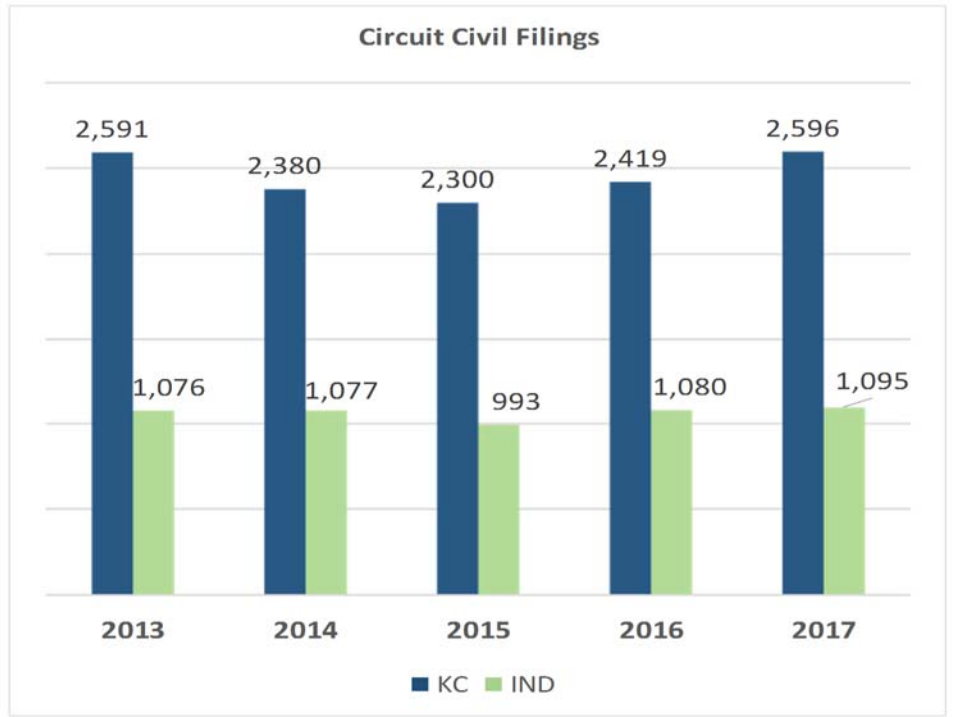
Comparing 2017 to 2016

- ◇ Circuit Civil (CC) filings have increased 5%.
- ◇ More CC cases are being filed than are being disposed leading to a clearance rate of 94% for 2017 compared to 98% for 2016 and leading to a 8% increase in CC cases pending at the end of 2017.
- ◇ 96% of CC cases pending on 12/31/2017 are within the State's time standard of 900 days, an improvement over 95% on 12/31/2016.
- ◇ 94% of CC dispositions fall within the State time standards, a 1% decline from 2016.
- ◇ Personal Injury-Vehicular (19%) continues to be the greatest percentage of CC filings followed by Other Personal Injury (9%).
- ◇ Associate Circuit Civil (ACC) filings increased 2%; dispositions decreased 4%.
- ◇ ACC clearance rate for 2017 was 94%, a 5% decline from 2016.
- ◇ The number of pending ACC cases on 12/31/2017 increased 29%; 98% of those pending cases remained within the State time standard, the same as on 12/31/2016.
- ◇ ACC filings for suits on account (25%), rent and possession (23.1%), for breach of contract (20.6%) were the highest percentage of ACC filings in 2017 as compared to rent and possession (22.3%), breach of contract (20.9%) and suits on account (20.7%) in 2016.

Comparing 2017 to 2013:

- ◇ CC filings have increased 1%; dispositions decreased 2%.
- ◇ The CC clearance rate was 97% in 2013 as compared to 94% in 2016.
- ◇ Dispositions by jury trials in CC cases have decreased 15% while bench trials have increased 96%.
- ◇ ACC filings have decreased 1% ; disposition decreased 14%.
- ◇ Clearance rates for ACC cases are 14% less.
- ◇ Bench trials in ACC cases declined 27%.

CIVIL



CIVIL

CIRCUIT CIVIL FILINGS BY CASE TYPE						
Nature of Action	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017*	%**
Pers Injury-Vehicular	599	558	540	613	707	19.2%
Pers Injury-Other	302	317	302	311	330	8.9%
Breach of Contract	377	330	336	293	311	8.4%
Other Miscellaneous Actions	196	205	245	267	295	8.0%
Employmnt Discrmntn 213.111	191	189	232	266	286	7.7%
Other Tort	277	252	222	252	254	6.9%
Quiet Title	119	127	124	137	124	3.4%
Wrongful Death	75	98	65	84	104	2.8%
Other Real Estate Actions	75	57	65	90	101	2.7%
Replevin	94	121	105	141	100	2.7%
Contract-Other	109	89	94	99	95	2.6%
Motn, Rules 29.15 or 24.035	83	75	67	82	94	2.5%
Pers Injury-Malpractice	119	103	125	94	87	2.4%
Declaratory Judgment	67	81	80	74	75	2.0%
CAFA Forfeit 513.600-513.64	89	58	65	77	67	1.8%
Reg Foreign Jgmt (excl DR)	118	75	66	77	59	1.6%
Property Damage	58	68	55	54	58	1.6%
Refuse Breath 302.750/577.04	29	26	23	31	57	1.5%
Suit on Account	97	91	73	50	56	1.5%
Small Claims Trial de Novo	72	66	44	48	56	1.5%
Other Administrative Review	45	34	24	26	42	1.1%
Out of State Witness	51	37	40	49	37	1.0%
Other Filings	608	544	420	400	296	8.0%
	3,850	3,601	3,412	3,615	3,691	100.0%
* Number filings 2017						
**Percentage of 2017 filings						

CIVIL

ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT CIVIL FILINGS BY CASE TYPE						
Nature of Action	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017*	%**
Rent and Possession	5,559	5,882	6,235	6,191	6,563	23.1%
Breach of Contract	6,343	6,144	5,105	5,795	5,856	20.6%
Suit on Account	7,554	6,302	4,647	5,732	7,096	25.0%
Delinquent Taxes	556	684	1,427	2,655	1,580	5.6%
Landlord Complaint	2,660	2,339	1,978	1,853	1,721	6.1%
Unlawful Detainer	1,243	979	927	1,082	1,008	3.5%
Small Claims over \$100	1,041	1,070	981	1,001	988	3.5%
Contract-Other	871	1,052	963	794	1,086	3.8%
Promissory Note	844	380	528	508	473	1.7%
Reg of Foreign Judgment	260	256	293	496	517	1.8%
Refus Breath 302.750/577.04	550	525	531	477	433	1.5%
Property Damage	559	460	438	456	471	1.7%
Misc Associate Civil-Other	131	167	125	124	94	0.3%
Declaratory Judgment	29	51	91	87	86	0.3%
DL Revoc Rvw 302.311 RSMo	65	84	88	85	80	0.3%
Pers Injury-Vehicular	117	52	72	77	52	0.2%
Other Tort	88	62	50	58	57	0.2%
Limit Dr Priv 302.309 RSMo	32	44	35	48	58	0.2%
Other Actions	159	109	244	221	220	0.8%
	28,661	26,642	24,758	27,740	28,439	100.0%
* Number filings 2017						
**Percentage of 2017 filings						

CIVIL

Domestic Relations	2013	2016	2017
Filings	6,300	5,683	5,655
Dispositions	6,309	5,996	5,549
Court Trials	862	909	1,051
Pending Cases 12/31	4,148	3,101	3,196
Domestic Violence	2013	2016	2017
Filings	6,665	6,968	7,204
Dispositions	7,209	6,806	7,137
Ex Parte Orders of Protection	4,255	4,762	4,388
Full Orders of Protection	1,551	1,633	1,422
Pending Cases 12/31	400	578	643

Comparing 2017 to 2016:

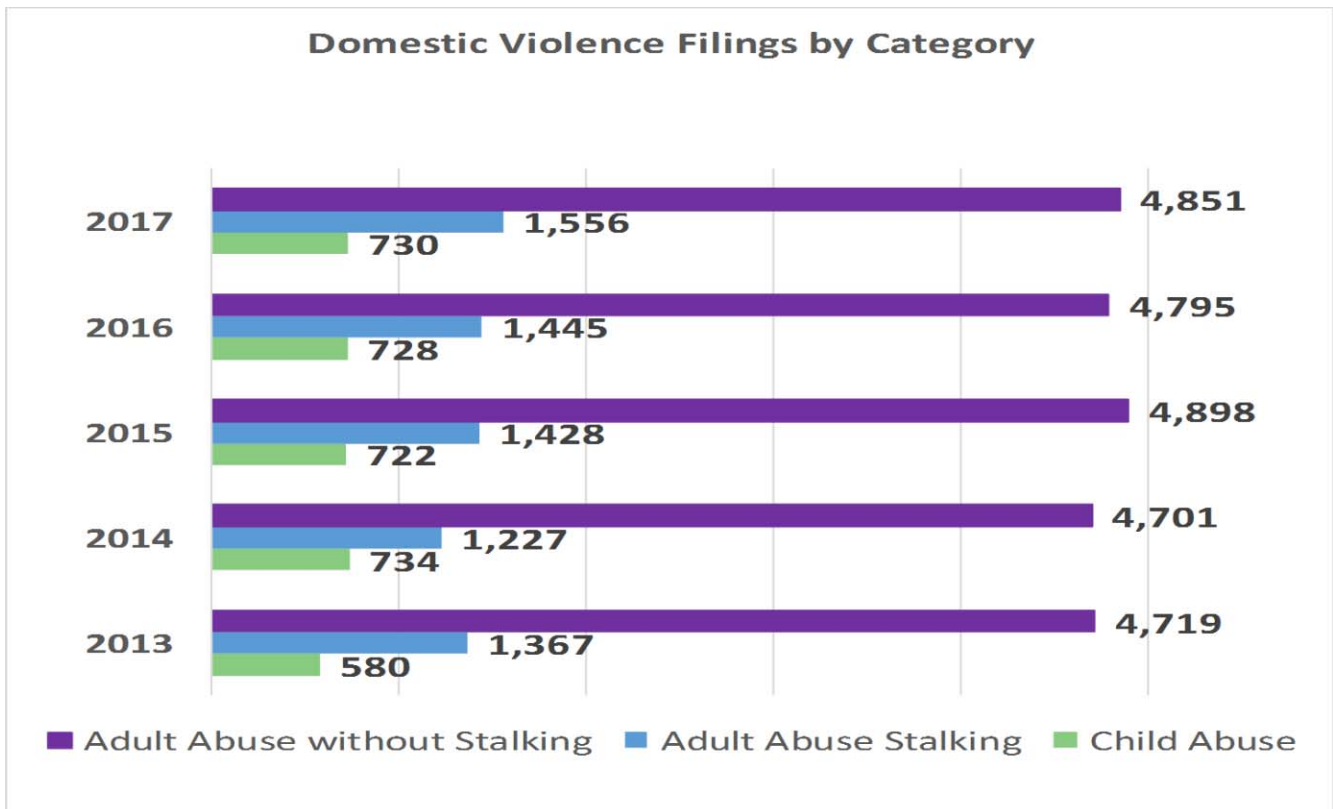
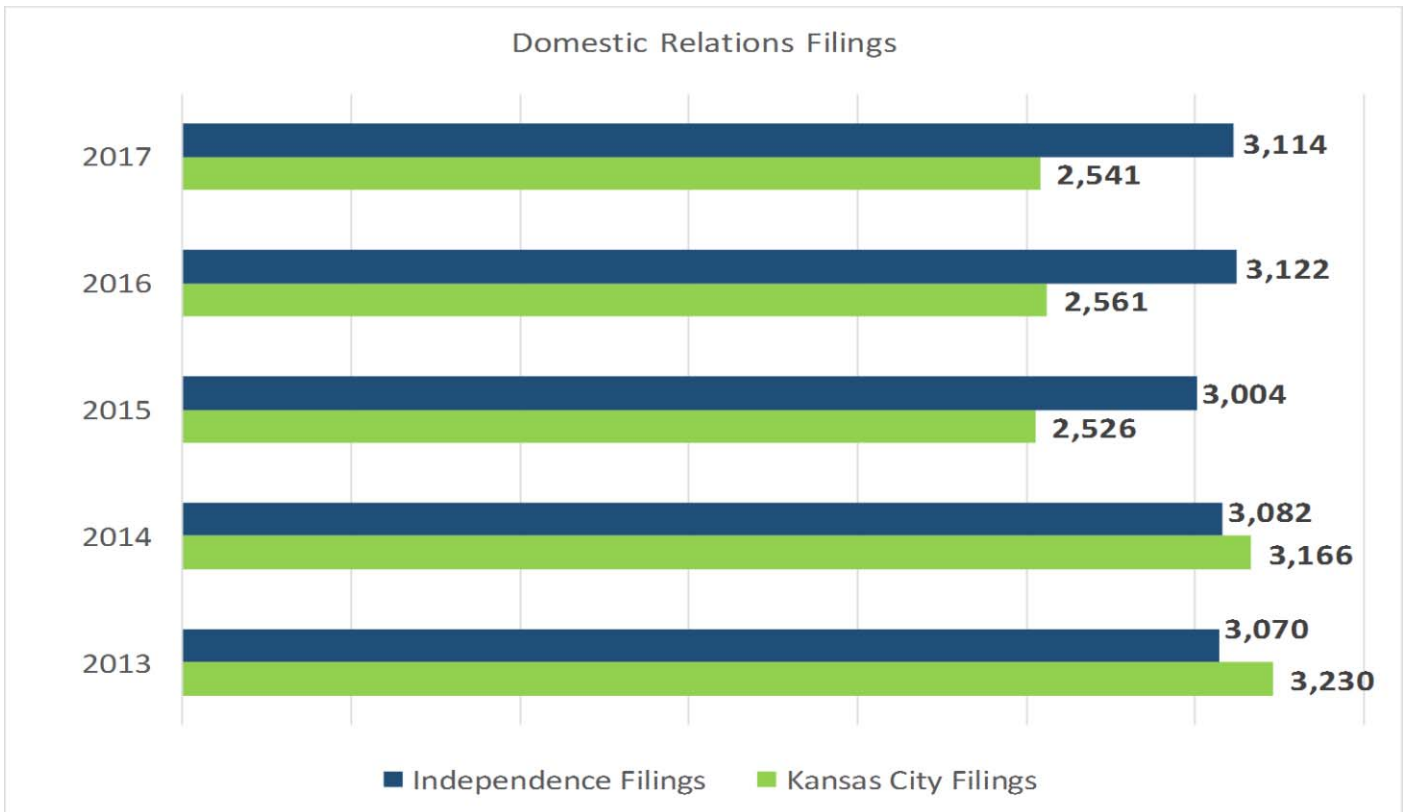
- ◇ Domestic Relations (DR) filings remained unchanged but dispositions decreased 7%.
- ◇ Dispositions of DR cases by bench trial increased 16%.
- ◇ There were 3% fewer DR cases pending on 12/31/2017 than on 12/31/2016.
- ◇ Filings for Domestic Violence (DV) cases increased 3%, and dispositions increased 5%.
- ◇ There were full orders of protection issued in 13% fewer DV cases.
- ◇ There were 11% more DV cases pending on 12/31/2017 than a year earlier.
- ◇ 96% of the combined DR and DV cases were disposed within the State time standard, a 3% improvement over 2016.
- ◇ 3% fewer of the combined DR and DV cases pending on 12/31/2017 were within the State time standard than those pending on 12/31/2016.
- ◇ The clearance rate for DR and DV cases

was 99% compared to 100% in 2016.

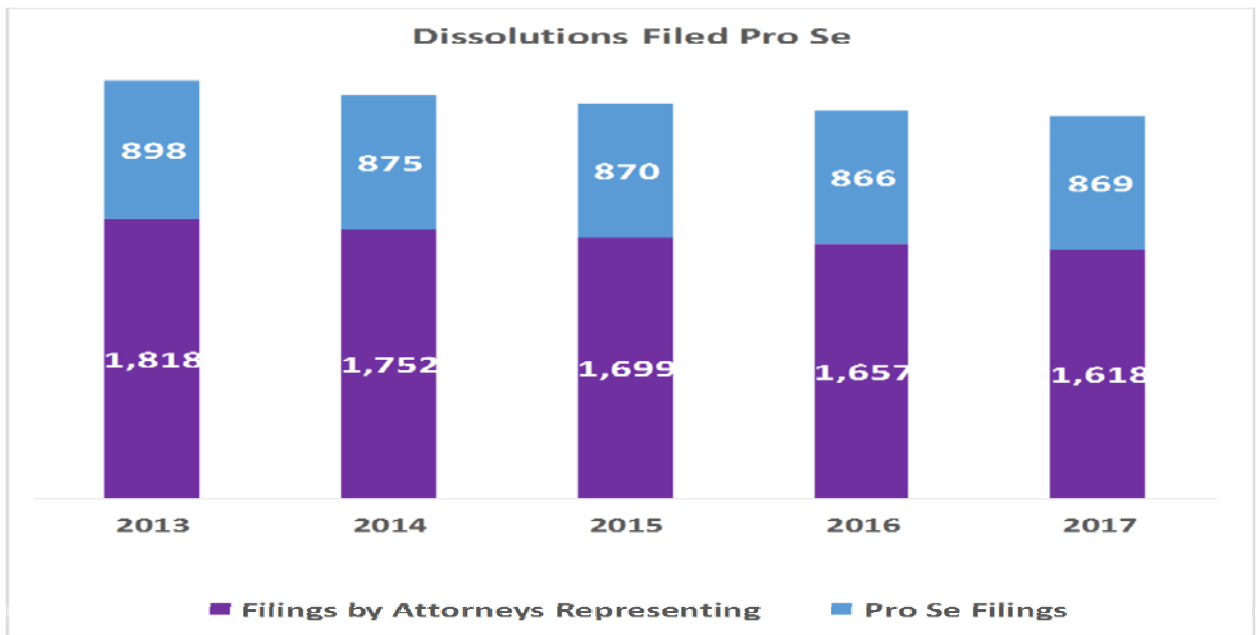
Comparing 2017 to 2013

- ◇ DR filings decreased by 10%, dispositions by 12%.
- ◇ Pro se filings rose from 21% in 2013 to 25% in 2017.
- ◇ There was an increase of 22% in the number of DR cases disposed by bench trial.
- ◇ There were 61% more DR cases pending on 12/31/2017 than on 12/31/2013.
- ◇ Filings for DV cases increased 8% , dispositions decreased 1%.
- ◇ There was an increase of 8% in the number of orders of full protection granted in DV cases.
- ◇ There were 61% more DV cases pending on 12/31/2017.
- ◇ The percentage of DR and DV cases pending on 12/31/2017 that were within the State time standard was 86% compared to 75% in 2013.

CIVIL



CIVIL



Pro Se Litigants in Dissolution Actions

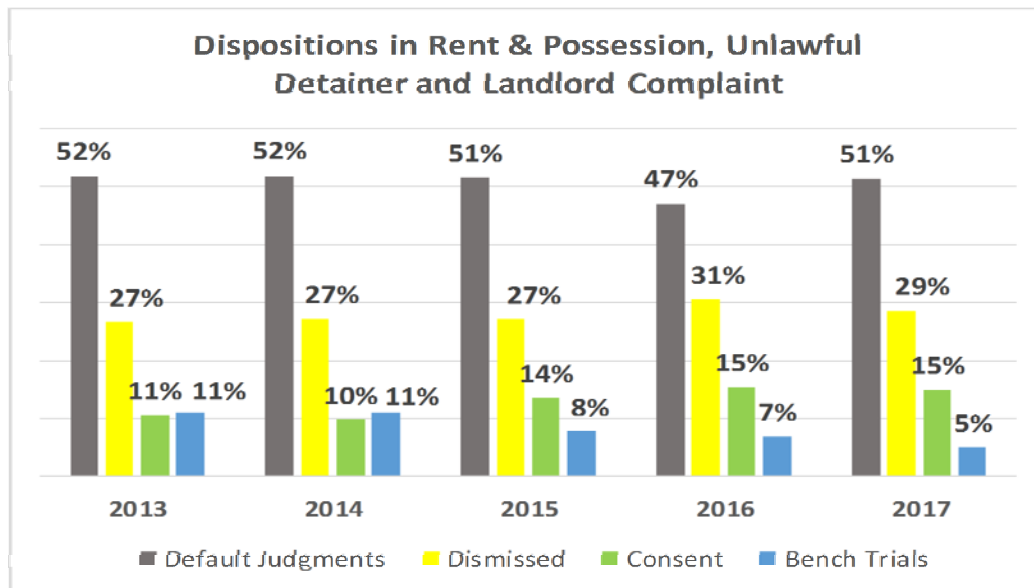
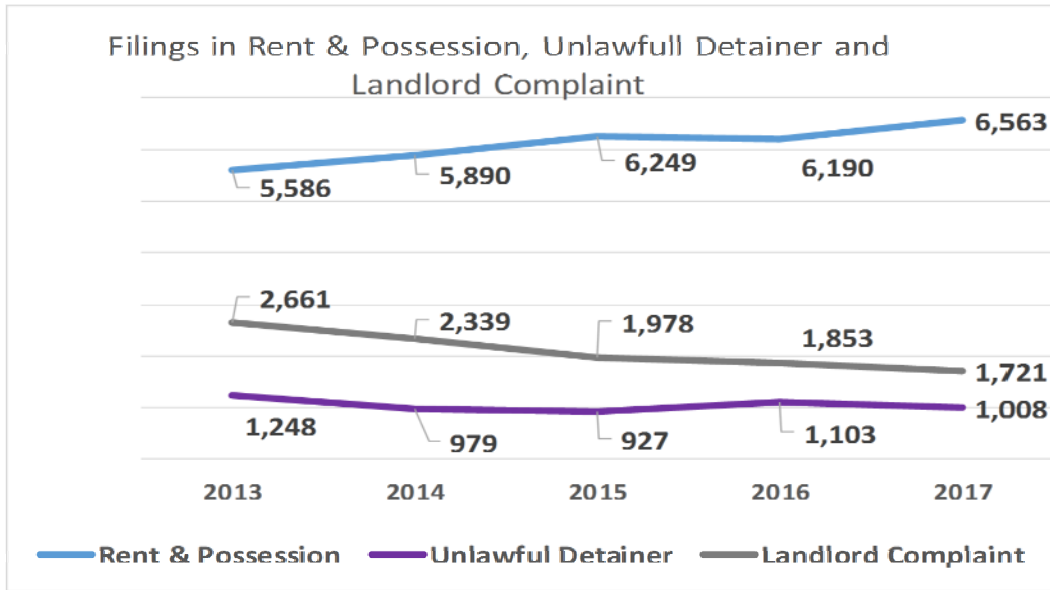
The graph above compares the dissolution filings over the last five years by self-represented litigants with dissolutions filed by attorneys for the petitioners.

The table below compares dissolution outcomes over the same period where neither the petitioner nor respondent is represented at the conclusion of the case with outcomes where attorneys represent one or both parties.

	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Pro Se	Other	Pro Se	Other	Pro Se	Other	Pro Se	Other	Pro Se	Other
Default	5%	7%	6%	11%	3%	8%	1%	3%	1%	4%
Tried by Court	5%	16%	3%	11%	5%	19%	4%	17%	9%	16%
Consent	23%	59%	22%	64%	23%	59%	27%	67%	21%	67%
Dismissed by Court	4%	5%	4%	5%	5%	6%	3%	5%	4%	5%
Dismissed by Parties	2%	10%	1%	8%	1%	7%	1%	7%	1%	7%
Other	0%	3%	0%	2%	0%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%

*Other are dispositions where one or both parties were represented by attorneys at the conclusion of the dissolution action.

CIVIL



CRIMINAL RECORDS

In the Criminal Records Department, 2017 was a year of transition and preparation for change.

Although criminal case have been electronically maintained for several years, the Prosecutor's Office had been filing paper documents to initiate cases. These documents were then scanned into JIS by Criminal Records. In February 2017, the Prosecutor began e-Filing all documents, including those at initiation.

In July, an electronic anytime warrant process was started. This process was developed in the department using shared file folders.

A major shift of employees and functions occurred in March when financial duties and staff were transferred to the new centralized Financial Unit.

Traffic had been using paper case files. During the last six months of 2017, preparations and planning were undertaken to introduce paperless traffic cases in 2018. This preparation included the scanning of all tickets and other documents related to pending traffic cases.

In August, all of the local rules pertaining to Criminal Records were reviewed, and desired revisions were directed to the Court's Legal Counsel.

Finally, as of March 2018, the municipal cases of Lake Tapawingo are to be filed in the Associate Division. Meetings with Lake Tapawingo representatives started in September 2017, to facilitate and incorporate this change.

CRIMINAL

Felonies*	2013	2016*	2017*
Filings	3,462	4,537	4,072
Extraditions	681	719	909
Dispositions	3,953	3,815	4,278
Jury Trials	35	54	59
Court Trials	11	14	5
Pending Cases 12/31	5,314	6,730	6,821
*Extraditions first entered in JIS on 11/01/2016 are excluded from filings for purpose of comparison and are shown separately.			
Misdemeanors	2013	2016	2017
Filings	3,204	3,700	3,160
Dispositions	3,623	3,246	2,933
Jury Trials	0	3	1
Court Trials	21	32	32
Pending Cases 12/31	5,325	5,723	6,005
Search Warrants	2013	2016	2017
Filings	1,536	1,490	1,590
Returns	1,535	1,487	1,584

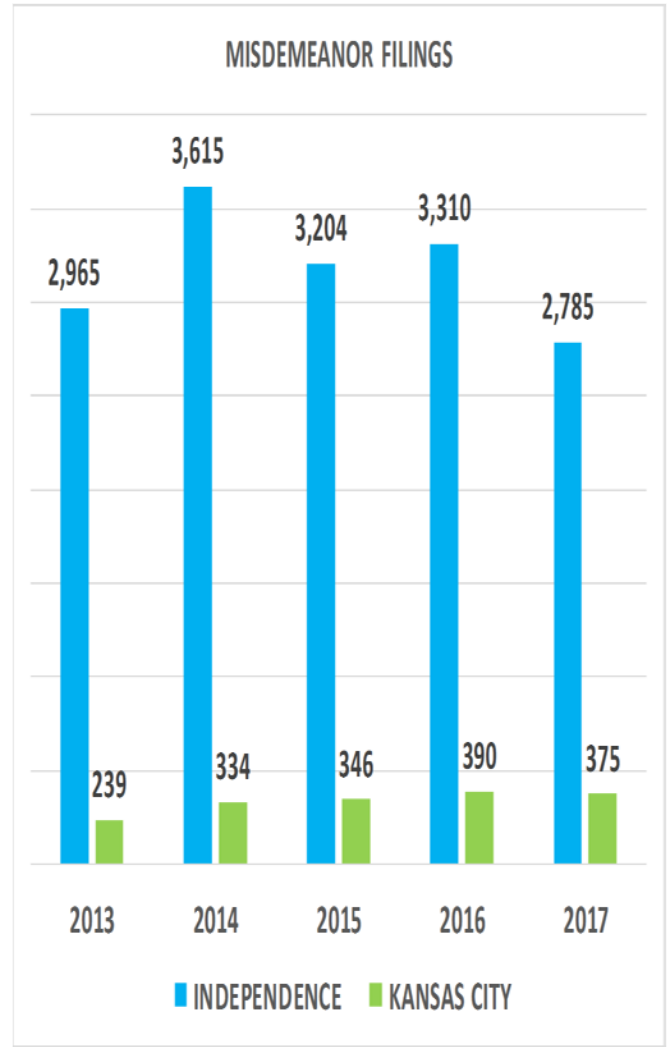
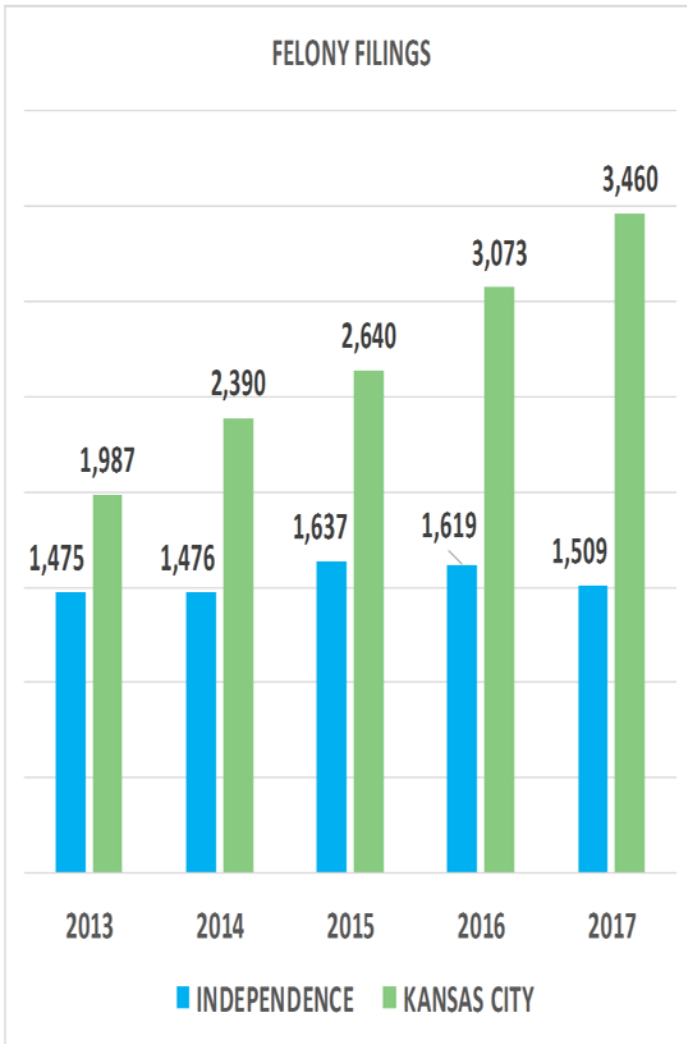
Comparing 2017 to 2016:

- ◇ Felony filings decreased 10%.
- ◇ Extraditions increased 26%.
- ◇ Dispositions in felony cases increased 12%, jury trials increased 9%, but bench trials decreased 64%.
- ◇ The clearance rate for Circuit Criminal cases was 99% compared to 89% in 2016. 96% of pending cases on 12/31/2017 were within 420 days of filing, 1% increase from 12/31/2016. 97% of disposed cases met time standards in 2017, the same as in 2016.
- ◇ Misdemeanor filings decreased 15%.
- ◇ Misdemeanor dispositions decreased 10%.
- ◇ There was no change in bench trials for misdemeanor cases.
- ◇ Search warrant filings increased 7%.
- ◇ Extraditions increased 33%.
- ◇ Dispositions in felony cases increased 8%, with jury trials increasing 69% and bench trials decreasing 55%.
- ◇ The clearance rate for Circuit Criminal cases was 4% more than the 95% rate in 2013. 1% fewer cases were pending on 12/31/2017 and within 420 days of filing than the 97% on 12/31/2013. The percentage of disposed cases meeting time standards decreased 1% from 98% in 2013.
- ◇ Misdemeanor filings decreased 1%.
- ◇ Misdemeanor dispositions decreased 19%.
- ◇ There was a 52% increase in bench trials in misdemeanor cases.

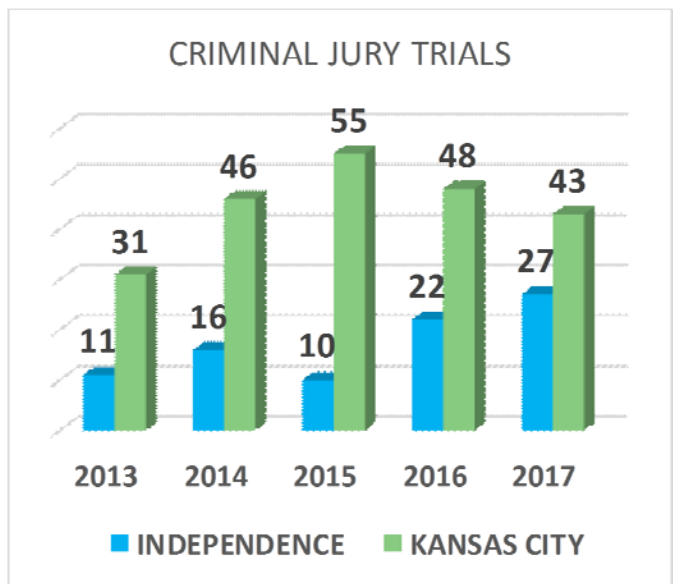
Comparing 2017 to 2013:

- ◇ Felony filings increased 18%.
- ◇ Search warrant filings increased 4%.

CRIMINAL



Note: Figures for jury trial numbers (shown to the right) are taken from division law clerk reports submitted at the termination of the trial. Municipal Appeals jury trials are included in the numbers. The figures include mistrials, pleas and dismissals as well as jury verdicts.

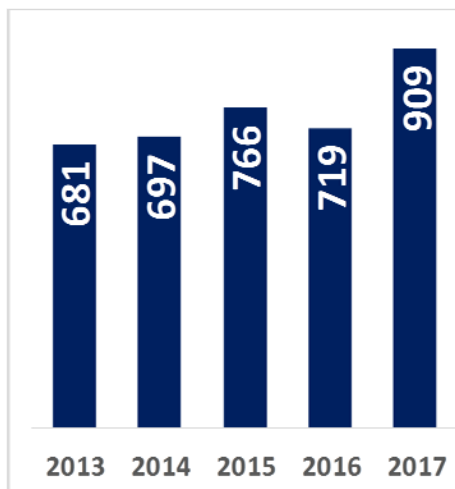


CRIMINAL

2017 Felony Filings by Charge Code

Based on Highest Charge Filed in Case		
Charge	Filings	% Total
Possession Controlled Substance	978	32%
Tamper - 1st / Motor Vehicle	184	6%
Robbery - 1st Degree	136	4%
Dwi - Persistent	123	4%
Stealing	122	4%
Receiving Stolen Propert	83	3%
Burglary - 2nd Degree	82	3%
Unlawful Possesson Of Firearm	82	3%
Dom Aslt- 2nd Deg	75	2%
Assault 1st Degree Or Attempt	67	2%
Resist Arrest/Detent/Sto	61	2%
Forgery	60	2%
Del Cntrl Sub-Exc Marj/Syn Cnb	53	2%
Dwi - Aggravated	51	2%
Murder 2nd Degree	48	2%
Other Felony Charges	858	28%

Extraditions



Felony Sentencing

	Probation		Confinement	
	SIS	SES	Jackson Co. Jail	Dept. of Corrections
2017	25%	42%	12%	21%
2016	27%	41%	12%	21%
2015	27%	45%	10%	17%
2014	25%	52%	8%	15%
2013	28%	56%	8%	8%

CRIMINAL

2017 Misdemeanor Filings by Charge

Based on Highest Charge Filed in Case		
Charge	Filings	% Total
DWI	580	17%
Owner Operating MV w/o Finan Respon 1st	525	16%
DWR/DWS - 1st Offense	250	8%
Failure To Register Motor Veh	242	7%
Fail To Drive Within Single Lane	181	5%
Oper MV w/o Valid Drivers License-1st Off	122	4%
Operating MV Careless Re Accident	120	4%
DWR/DWS - 2nd Or Subsqt Offense	72	2%
Fail To Drive On Right 1/2 Roadway	72	2%
Poss Marj/Synth Canb =<10 Grm	70	2%
Unlawfl Poss Drug Parphrnlia	63	2%
Other Misdemeanor Filings	1,036	31%

Misdemeanor Sentencing

	Fine	Probation		Confinement Jackson Co.
		SIS	SES	Jail
2017	47%	25%	13%	15%
2016	48%	23%	14%	15%
2015	49%	24%	15%	12%
2014	52%	18%	16%	14%
2013	44%	26%	14%	16%

CRIMINAL

Traffic	2013	2016	2017
Filings	3,937	3,673	2,617
Dispositions	4,654	3,335	2,571
Court Trials	19	25	18
Pending Cases 12/31	4,180	4,145	3,394
Municipal Appeals	2013	2016	2017
Filings	254	167	177
Dispositions	258	156	154
Jury Trials	5	4	3
Court Trials	29	42	38
Pending Cases 12/31	113	59	81
Drug Court	2013	2016	2017
Filings in Drug Court	251	344	477
Drug Charge Criminal Filings	655	1,755	1,674
Dispositions	264	301	231
Successful Completion	163	152	177
Pending Cases 12/31	652	673	920

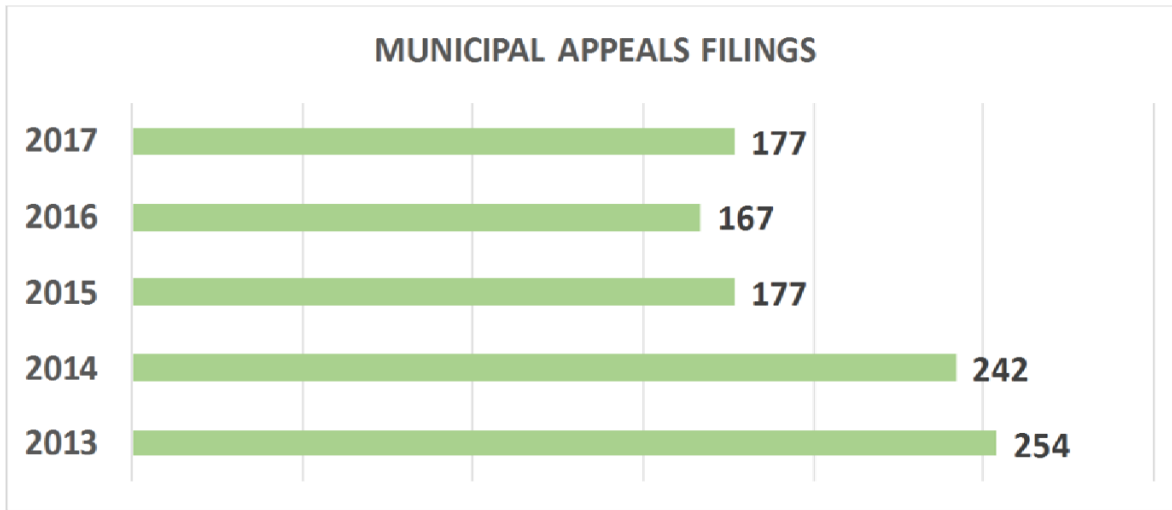
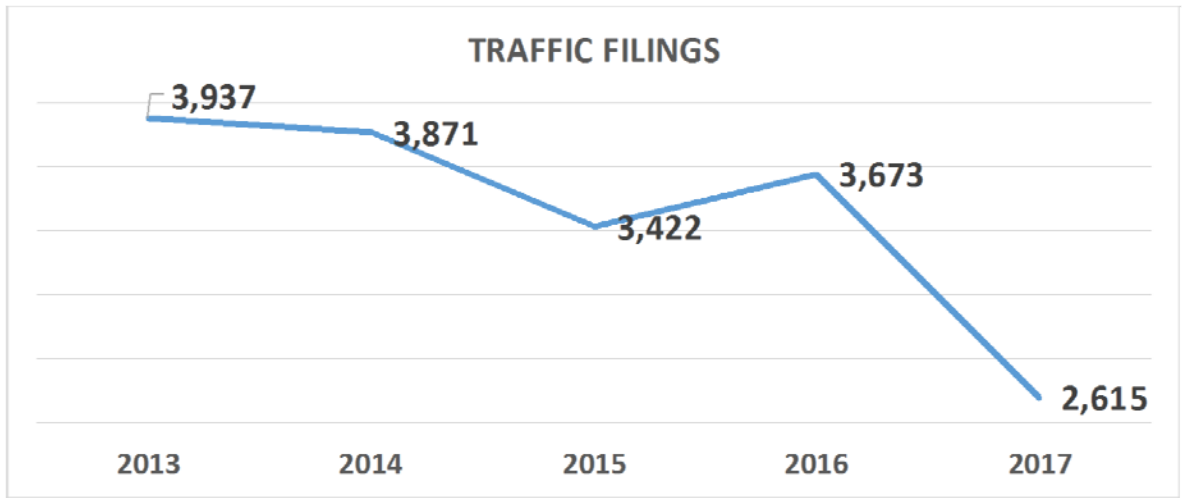
Comparing 2017 to 2016:.

- ◇ Traffic filings decreased 29%, and traffic dispositions decreased 23%.
- ◇ Municipal appeals filings increased 6%.
- ◇ The percentage of cases with drug charges increased 39%, but 5% fewer cases were diverted to Drug Court.
- ◇ Defendants successfully completing the Drug Court Program increased 16%.

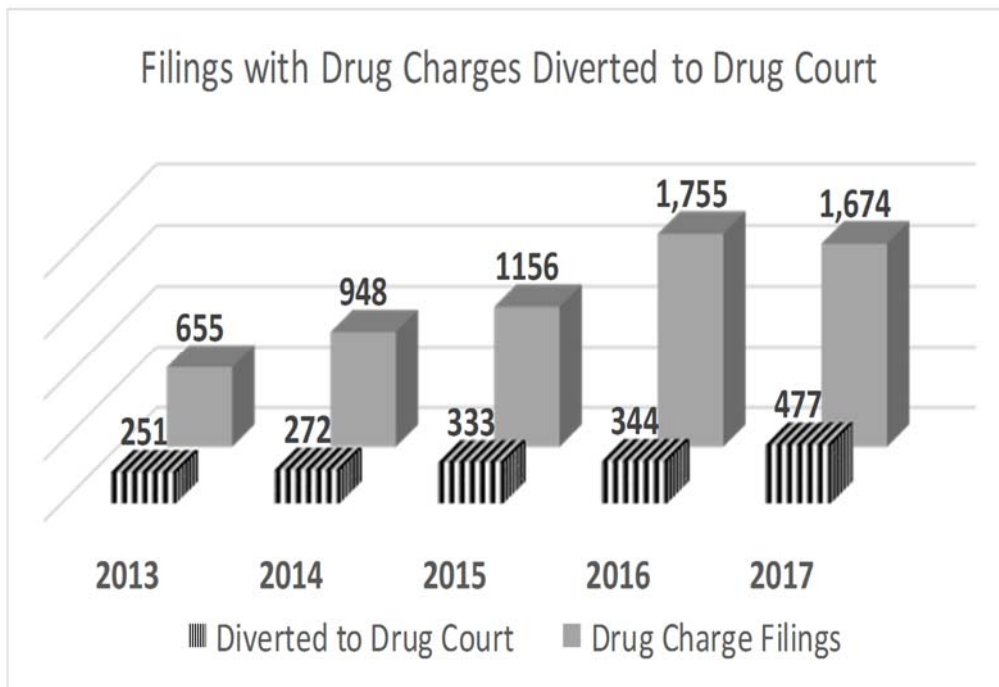
Comparing 2017 to 2013:.

- ◇ Traffic filings decreased 34%, and traffic dispositions decreased 45%.
- ◇ Municipal appeals filings decreased 48%.
- ◇ Bench trials in municipal appeals cases increased 31%.
- ◇ The percentage of cases with drug charges increased 156%, and those diverted to Drug Court increased 90%.
- ◇ Drug Court graduation increased 9%.

CRIMINAL



The graph below compares all filings with a drug charge as the primary charge to those filings in that group diverted to Drug Court.



PROBATE RECORDS

In 2017, the Probate Department implemented necessary modifications to the department's organization in order to better meet the needs of the department with our existing level of staffing. The auditing functions were consolidated to the Independence office. The settlement desk functions and the new case processing functions, with the exception of the abbreviated matters, were consolidated to the Kansas City office. Eliminating the duplication of processes in two offices has allowed us to reduce inconsistencies in case processing, improve efficiency, and provide better service.

In addition to new case filings, the Probate Department and Probate Division continue to maintain an ongoing annual caseload in excess of 7,000 cases, the majority of which require multiple instances of case review and case processing. According to the 2017 Annual Statistical Report posted on the Missouri Judiciary's website, Jackson County (2016 population of 691,801) has the highest number of pending cases (decedent's estates, incapacitated/disabled estates, minors' estates, mental health petitions and probable cause petitions) of all the circuits in the state, including St. Louis County (2016 population of 998,581).

Although the overall number of case filings have continued to decline, the Probate Department and Probate Division have implemented improved processes which will assure that accurate case counts are captured. Beginning on January 1, 2017, the use of sub-cases was discontinued on all probate case types other than mental health, and we have ceased to combine multiple actions under a single existing case number.

The Probate Department successfully completed the scanning of all pending probate case files through the use of special assistance funding.

PROBATE

	2013	2016	2017
Filings	4,344	3,753	4,222
Decedent Estates Filed	440	458	474
Guardian/Conservator	951	794	779
Mental Health Detention/Treatment	191	172	174
Abbreviated Probate Matters Filed	2,762	2,329	2,795
Adversary Matters	595	753	496
Dispositions	4,458	4,301	4,042
Pending 12/31	8,312	8,480	8,243

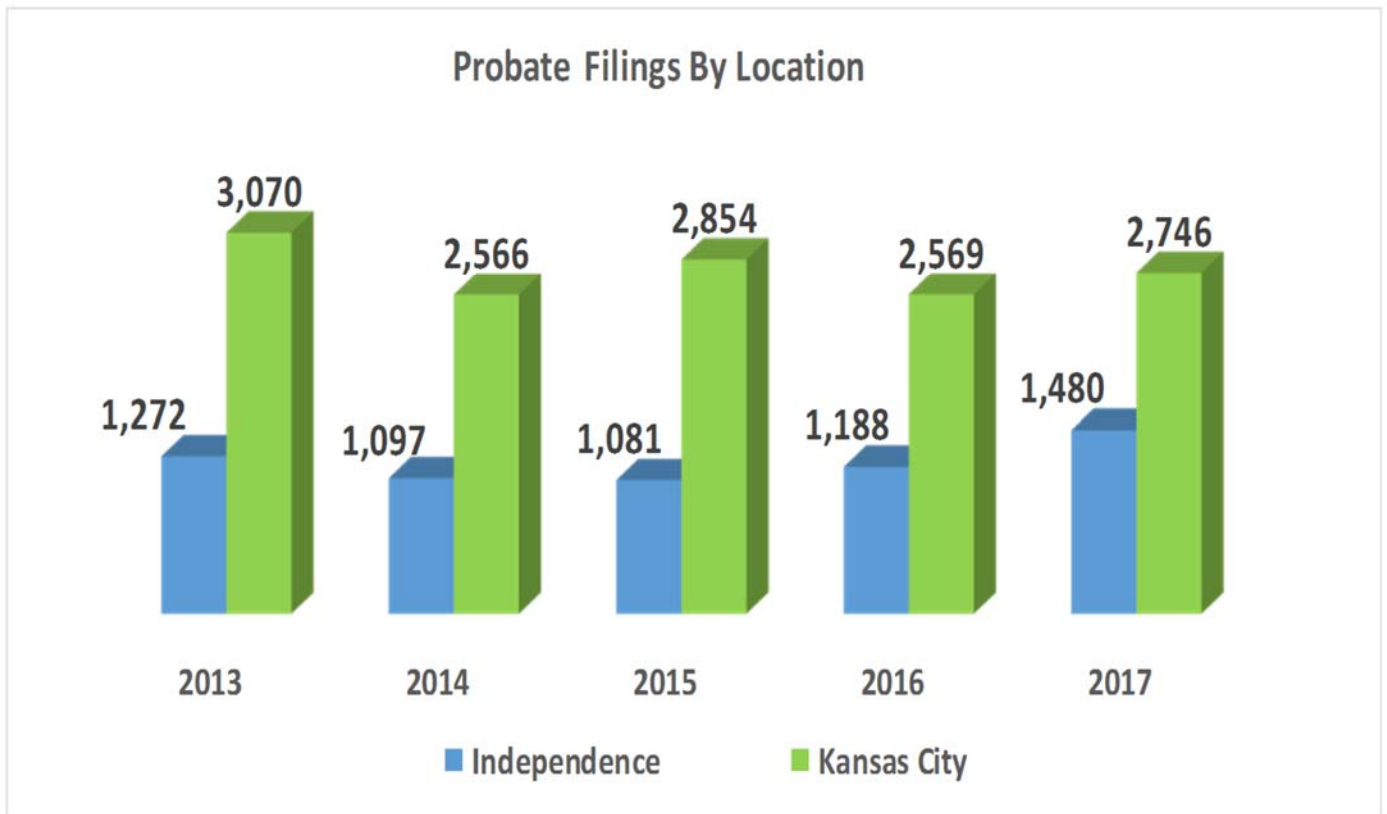
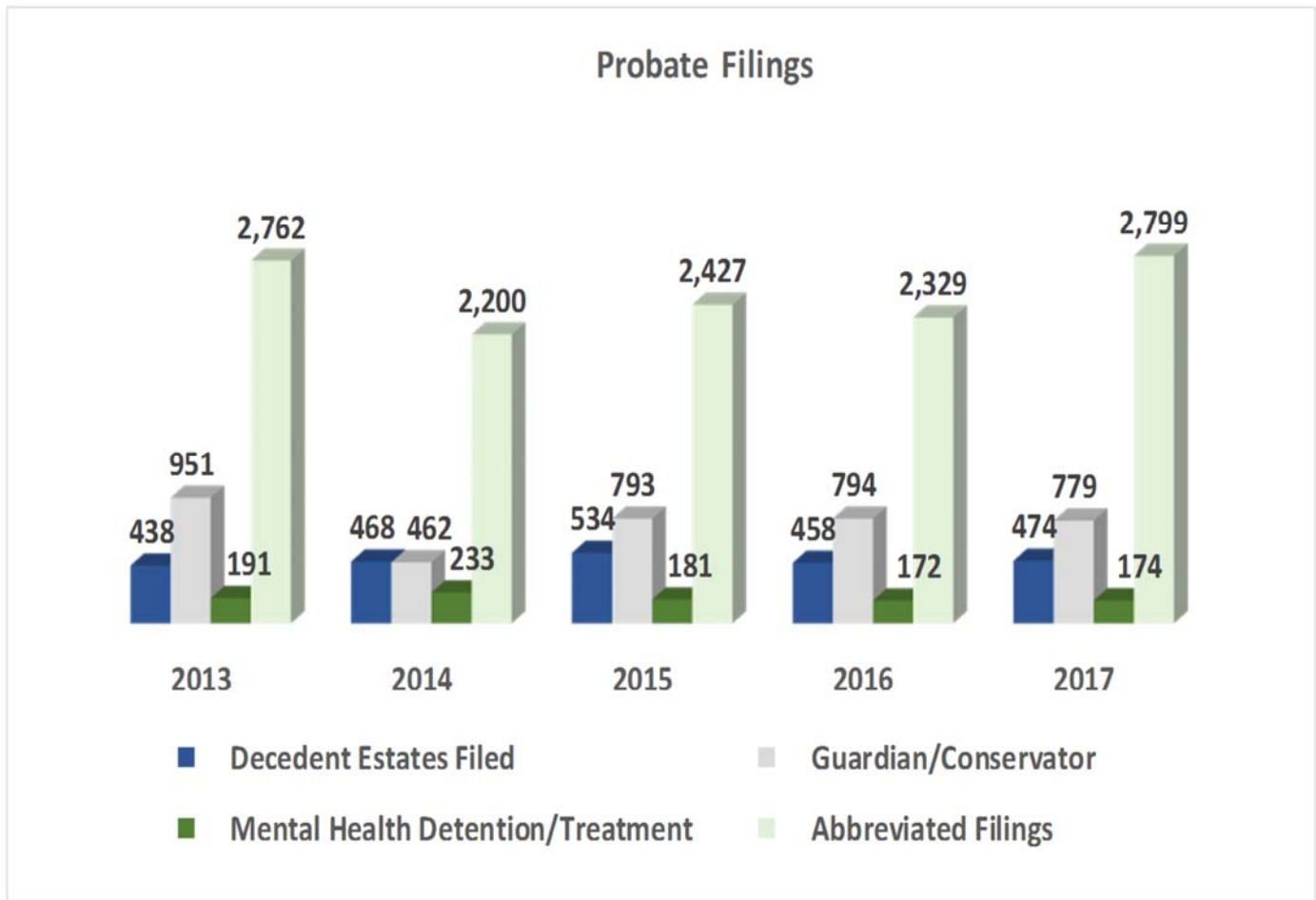
Comparing 2017 to 2016:

- ◇ Probate filings increased 12%; dispositions decreased 6%.
- ◇ Filings of decedent estates increased 3%.
- ◇ Guardianship/conservator filings decreased 2%.
- ◇ Filings of mental health detention/treatment cases increased 1%.
- ◇ Abbreviated probate matters increased 20%.
- ◇ Adversary proceedings decreased 34%, but those filed in Independence increased 52% over 2016.
- ◇ Inventory of cases pending on December 31 decreased 3%.

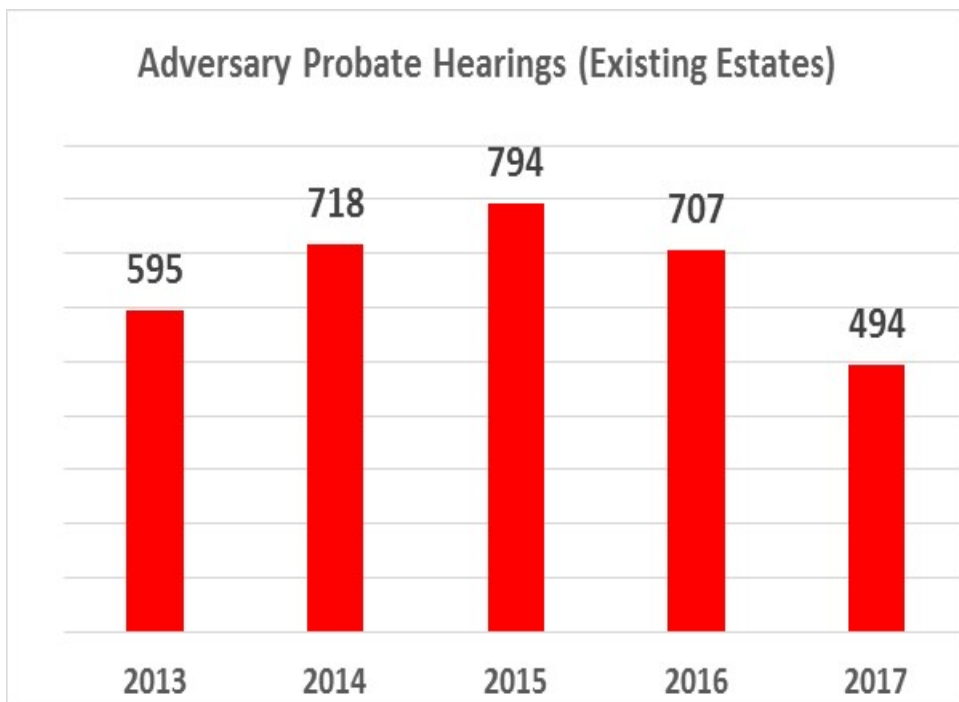
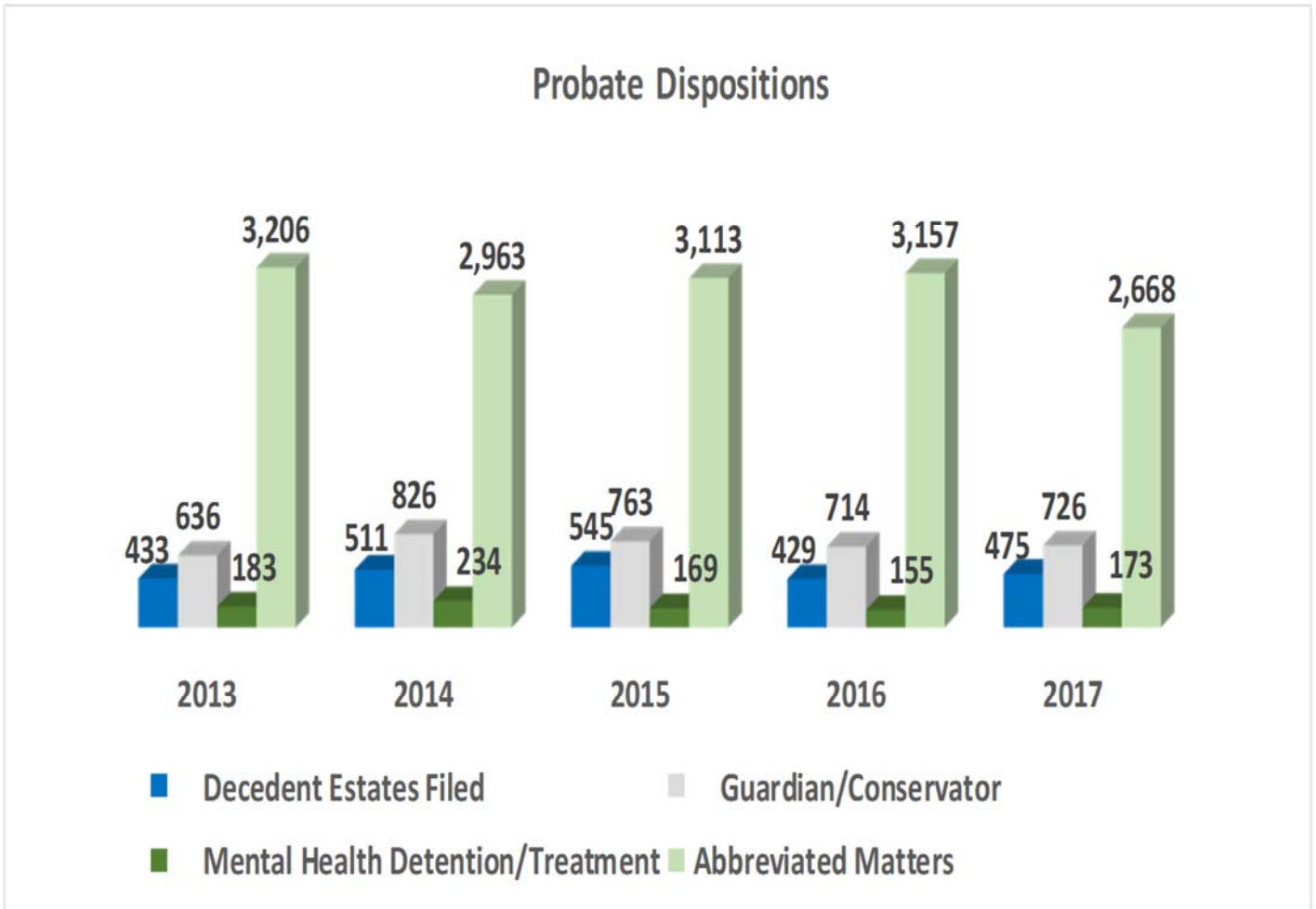
Comparing 2017 to 2013:

- ◇ Probate filings decreased 3%, and dispositions decreased 9%.
- ◇ There was a 8% increase in decedent estate filings, and a decrease of 18% in guardianships filed.
- ◇ Filings of mental health detentions/treatments decreased 9%.
- ◇ Abbreviated probate matters increased 1%.
- ◇ Court-wide adversary hearings decreased 17%; those in Independence increased 29% over 2013.
- ◇ Inventory of cases pending on December 31 decreased 1%.

PROBATE



PROBATE



2017

FAMILY COURT

FAMILY COURT

Referrals	2013	2016	2017	
Abuse-Neglect	1,304	1,387	1,501	108%
Delinquency	1,521	1,368	1,314	96%
Status Offenses	55	61	67	110%
Formal Filings by Person (Motions to Modify included)	2013	2016	2017	
Abuse-Neglect	1,477	1,423	1,277	90%
Delinquency	539	442	359	81%
Status Offenses	17	12	9	75%
Adoptions	292	294	299	102%
Termination of Parental Rights	112	449*	369*	#####
Certifications	2013	2016	2017	
Filings	64	47	48	102%
Youth Placed in Residential	2013	2016	2017	
	47	29	33	114%
Programs and Services	2013	2016	2017	

Comparing 2017 to 2016:

- ◆ Referrals on Abuse-Neglect increased 8%, but formal filings for Abuse-Neglect decreased 10%.
- ◆ Referrals for Delinquency decreased 4%, and filings on Delinquency decreased 19%.
- ◆ Formal filings for Termination of Parental Rights decreased 18%.*
- ◆ Certification filings increased 2%.
- ◆ Youth placed in residential increased 14%.
- ◆ Youth starting probation decreased 35%.
- ◆ Decreases in Actual Visits/ Exchanges 1% and in Mediation

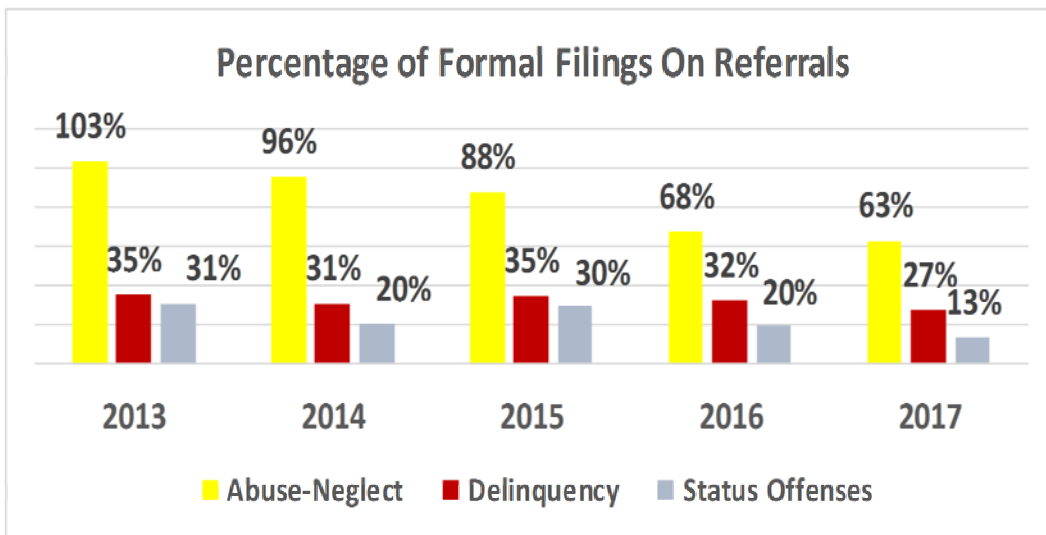
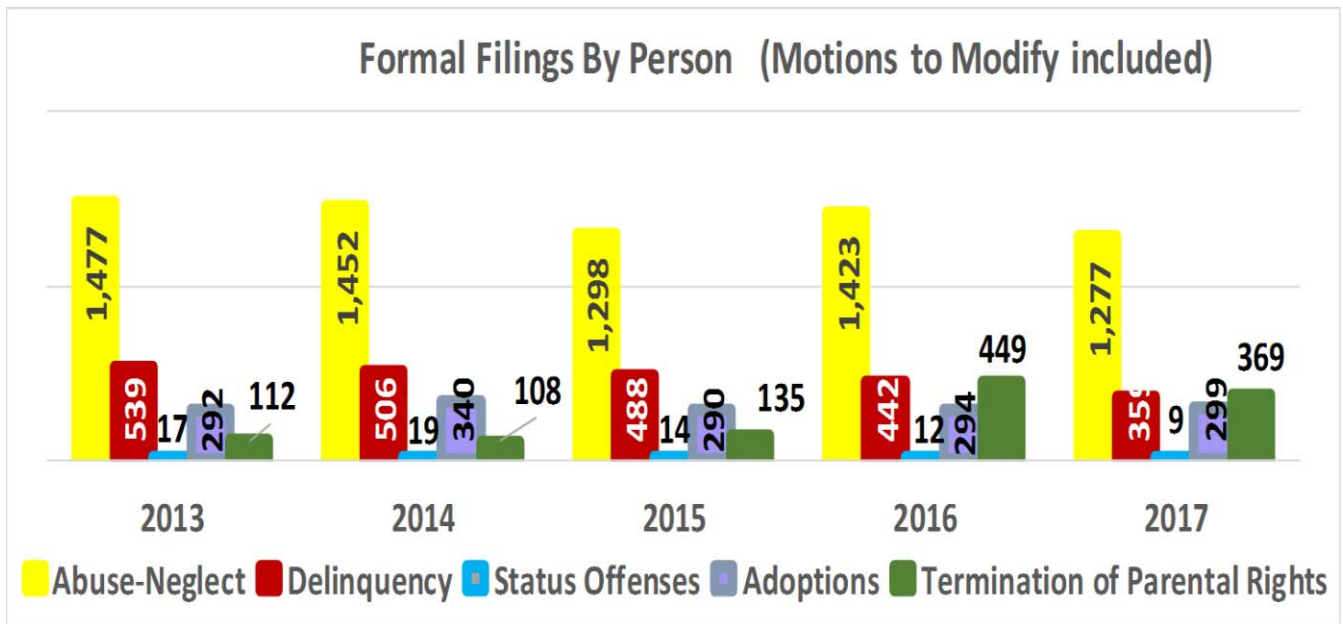
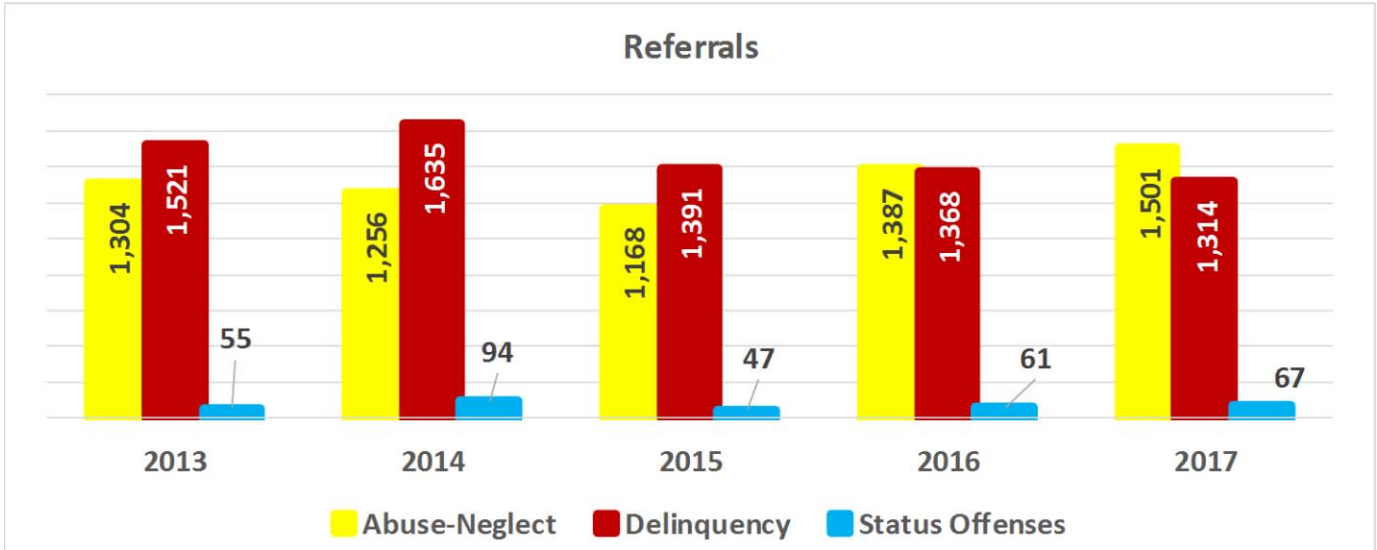
10% , but Parent Awareness increased 12%.

Comparing 2017 to 2013:

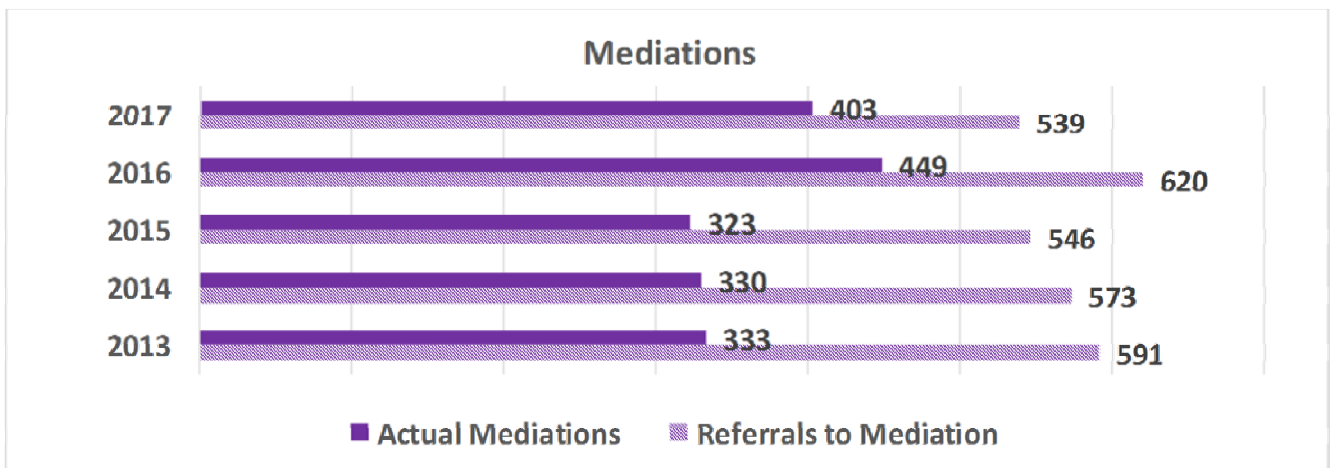
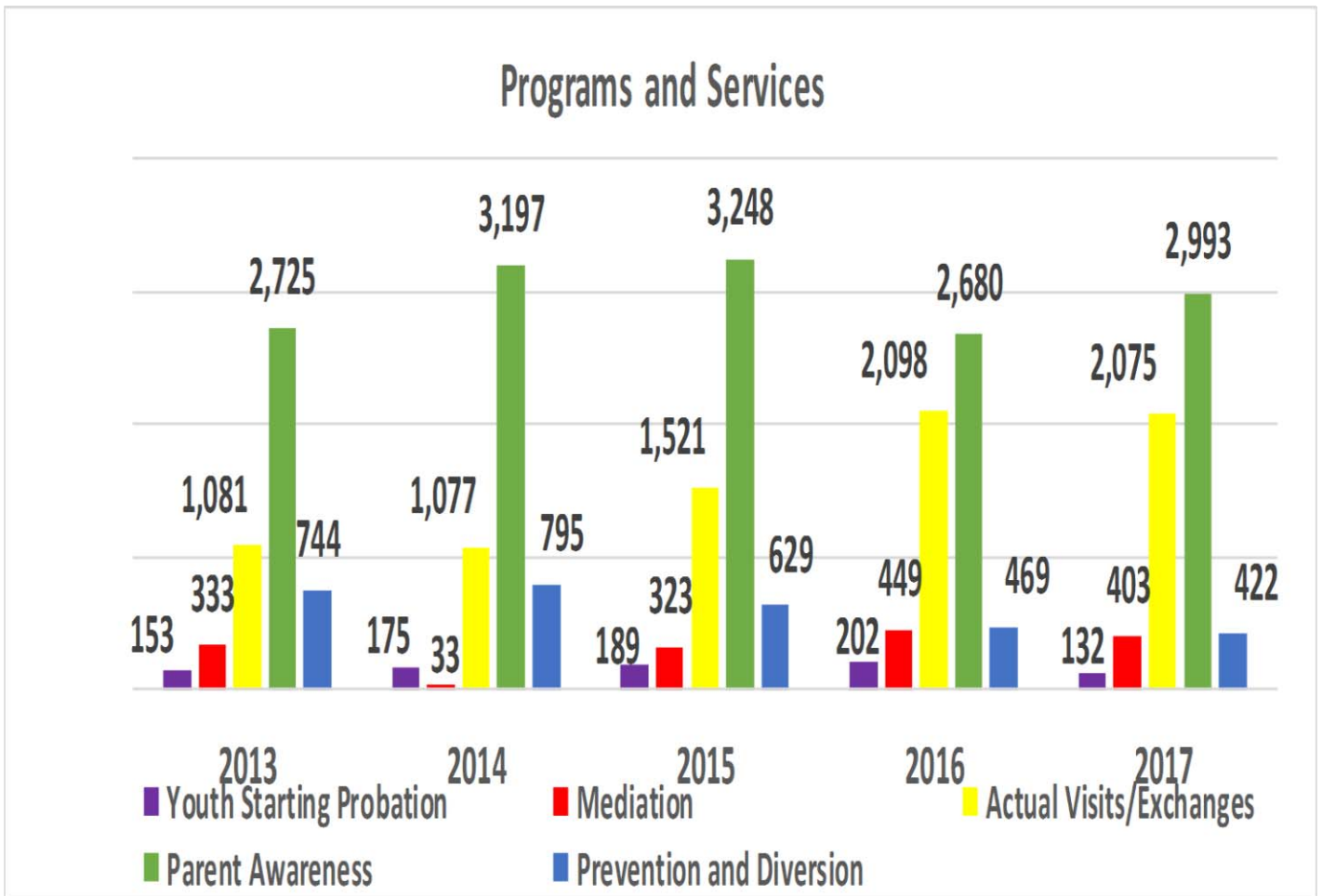
- ◆ Referrals on Abuse-Neglect increased 15%, but formal filings for Abuse-Neglect decreased 14%.
- ◆ Referrals for Delinquency decreased 14%, and formal filings on Delinquency decreased 33%.
- ◆ Formal filings for Termination of Parental Rights increased 229%.*
- ◆ Certification filings decreased 25%.
- ◆ Youth placed in residential decreased 30%.
- ◆ Youth starting probation decreased 14%.
- ◆ Increase in Mediation 21%, Actual Visits/Exchanges 92%, and Parent Awareness 10%.

*In the Fall of 2015, the JO identified cases with ordered permanency goals where no petition for termination had been filed. The 2016 and 2017 filings for termination of parental rights reflect the plan developed to pursue these goals.

FAMILY COURT



FAMILY COURT



CIVIL PROCESS

CIVIL PROCESS

	2013	2016	2017
Pre-Judgment Process			
Number Served	14,479	12,318	12,548
% Served	64%	66%	61%
Bad Addresses *	3,997	3,414	3,737
Unable to Contact	4,101	2,845	4,336
Total Pre-Judgment Process	22,577	18,577	20,621
Post-Judgment Process			
Levies & Garnishments	18,211	11,734	10,211
Evictions	3,700	3,179	4,140
Attachments & Replevins	48	155	130
Protective Orders Served	966	1,664	1,429
Protective Orders Unable to Contact	3,665	3,333	3,816
Total Post-Judgment Process	26,590	20,065	19,726
Total Papers	49,167	38,642	40,347
Delinquent Land Tax Sales			
Parcels Offered for Sale	1,103	826	679
Parcels Sold	460	487	487
Gross Revenue Generated (\$)	2,259,653	3,014,646	3,149,506

*Civil Process attempts to establish service at the addresses provided by plaintiffs and attorneys. If we learn the address is "bad", we then try to establish a "good" one by calling the plaintiff, attorney or checking with neighbors, for example. Bad addresses prevent proper service, and account for **18% (3,737 papers) of the overall total of 20,621**. It is also the only variable for establishing service that is out of the control of Civil Process. If we look at service without the bad addresses subset **the service rate is over 80%**.

Jonni Wright, Director of Civil Process

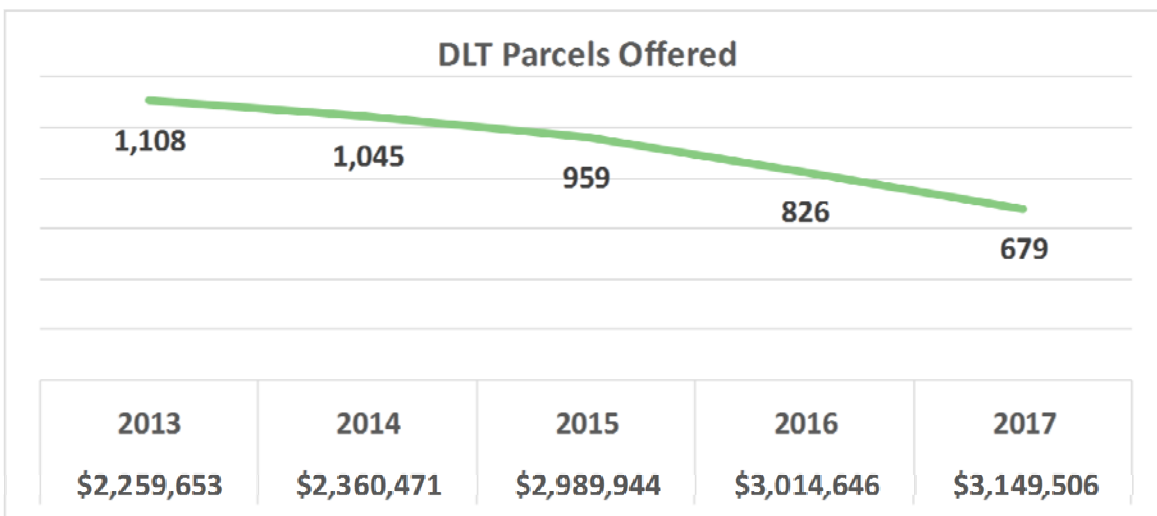
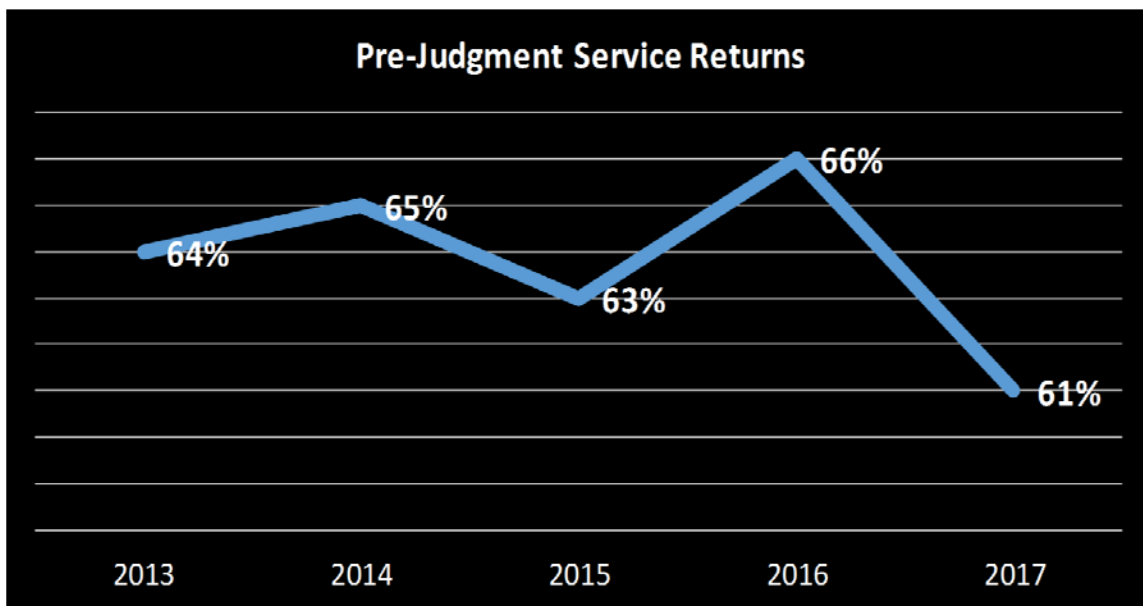
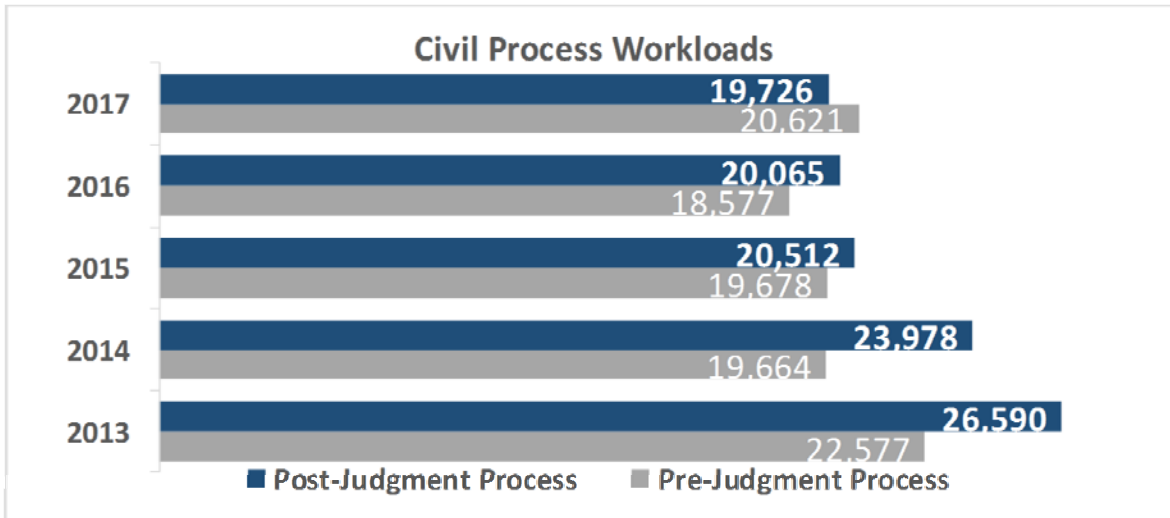
Comparing 2017 to 2016:

- ◇ The total number of all papers received increased 4%.
- ◇ The total number of pre-judgment process received increased 11%.
- ◇ The number of pre-judgment process served increased 2%, but the service rate declined 5%.
- ◇ The total number of post-judgment process received decreased 2%.
- ◇ The percentage of protective orders served decreased 14% .
- ◇ Attachments/replevins decreased 16%.
- ◇ The number of parcels offered at the Delinquent Land Tax (DLT) Sale decreased 18% , but the number of parcels sold was unchanged.
- ◇ Gross revenue generated from the DLT sale increased 4%.

Comparing 2017 to 2013:

- ◇ The total number of all papers received decreased 18%.
- ◇ The total number of pre-judgment process received decreased 9%.
- ◇ The number of pre-judgment process served decreased 13%, and the service rate declined 3%
- ◇ The total number of post-judgment process received decreased 26%.
- ◇ The percentage of protective orders served increased 48%.
- ◇ Attachments/replevins increased 171%.
- ◇ The number of parcels offered at the DLT Sale decreased 38%, but the number of parcels sold increased 6%.
- ◇ Gross revenue generated from the DLT sale increased 39%.

CIVIL PROCESS



JURY

2017 was the second full year in which the new jury room in the Eastern Jackson County Courthouse (EJCCH) in Independence was in use. The jury room now accommodates 220 jurors, about twice the number of the old jury room.

The ability to bring in a larger number of jurors to the EJCCH serves a dual purpose. First, it allows the Court to better meet the demand for jurors from the five jury trial divisions that now sit in that location, including Division 12, which moved in mid-2015. In addition, it allows additional jurors to be brought into the EJCCH and utilized for trials scheduled by the 10 jury trial divisions that sit in Kansas City, when the demand for jurors by those divisions exceeds the supply. There is seating capacity in Kansas City for 250 jurors. While it is more common for juror demand to exceed supply in Kansas City, this process can actually be used for either location.

When demand exceeds supply in one location, but jurors are available in the other, divisions can be offered the option of pulling a panel and conducting voir dire where the jurors are available. They can then complete the trial in their “home” division after jury selection is complete. A Kansas City division conducting voir dire at the EJCCH can do so either in the new jury room, which was designed to also be used as a courtroom, or in an available division. The jury room in the EJCCH can also be used for voir dire of large panels by the divisions regularly sitting in Independence. The jury room in Kansas City on the other hand was not designed, and is not well-suited, for use for voir dire.

JURY

Trials	2013	2016	2017
Civil	70	72	60
Criminal	42	70	70
Total	112	142	130
Available Jurors			
Independence	3,906	7,190	7,460
Kansas City	11,043	13,076	11,994
Total	14,949	20,266	19,454
Jurors Sent to Divisions			
Independence	2,088	3,100	2,906
Kansas City	4,128	5,628	4,961
Total	6,214	8,728	7,867
Juror Yield	32%	35%	39%
Sent for Jury Selection	42%	43%	40%
Selected as Jurors	11%	10%	9%

Comparing 2017 to 2016:

- ◇ Jury trials decreased 8%.
- ◇ The number of jury trials in criminal cases was unchanged, but civil jury trials decreased 17%.
- ◇ 4% fewer people qualified for jury duty, an 8% decrease in Kansas City, but a 4% increase in Independence.*
- ◇ The number of jurors sent to divisions decreased 10%.
- ◇ The civil case types with the greatest percentage of jury trials were employment discrimination, contracts, and personal injury-vehicular. On the criminal side, the most jury trials were held in criminal cases with charges of sodomy, homicide, and robbery.
- ◇ Juror yield increased from 35% in 2016 to 39% in 2017.
- ◇ The percentage of qualified jurors

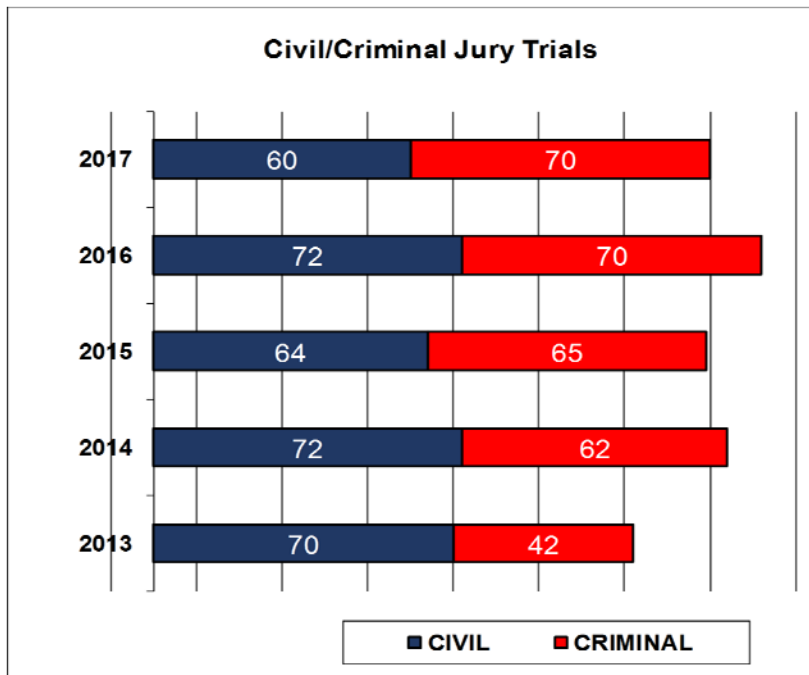
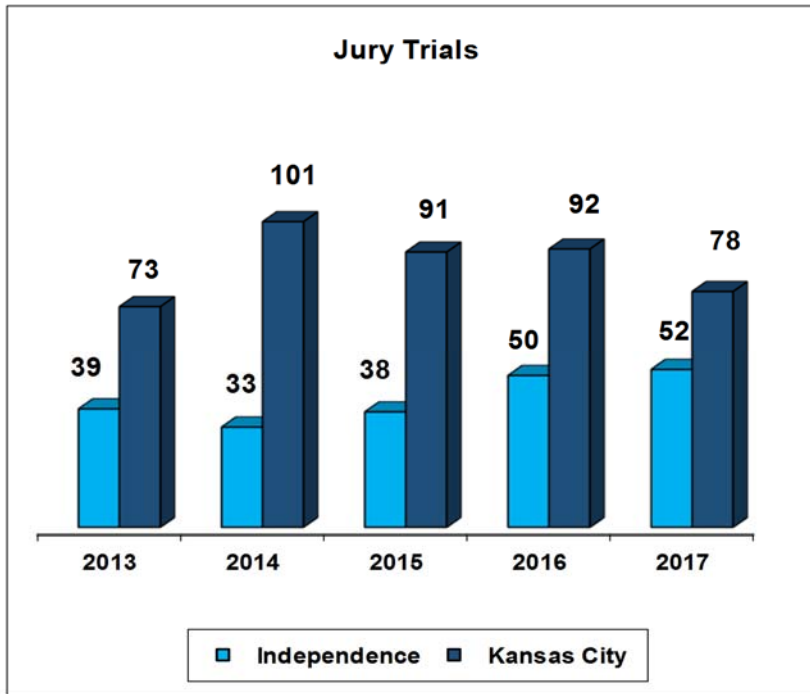
sent for jury selection decreased 3%.

Comparing 2017 to 2013:

- ◇ Jury trials increased 16%.
- ◇ Jury trials in criminal cases increased 67%; jury trials in civil cases decreased 14%.
- ◇ 30% more people qualified for jury duty at both courthouses, a 91% increase in Independence* and a 9% increase in Kansas City.
- ◇ The number of jurors sent to divisions increased 27%, with the number of jurors sent to Kansas City divisions increasing 20% and to Independence divisions 39%.*
- ◇ Juror yield increased from 32% to 39%.
- ◇ The percentage of qualified jurors sent for selection decreased from 42% in 2013 to 40% in 2017.

*As noted in the preface, these increases are due in large part to the new, larger jury room at the Independence location.

JURY



COURT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (CIT)

In 2017, CIT continued to develop applications and to enhance infrastructure, security and customer service responsiveness.

In the area of **application development:**

- Developed and implemented a new Contract Management System.
- Implemented more effective file searches and retrieval for OGAL.
- Developed on-line workflow processes for Court Services and for HR.
- Created a website for the 2017 Streetcar Election.
- Updated and developed reports and merge forms to accommodate the move of the traffic docket from Division 33 to Division 34 in 2018.
- Developed AnyTime Warrants to electronically process and transmit arrest warrants between Criminal Records staff and Judges.
- Took over from the County, the Gatekeeper System for requesting, finding and sending files stored in the Caves.
- Coordinated and assisted in the implementation of the Show-Me Jury System. This included re-writing the positive pay and check clearing processes developed in-house for the replaced jury system.

Among **security enhancements:**

- Developed a process to secure, hold and search data whether documents, emails, phone records or videos needed by Legal Counsel for possible or pending litigation.
- Enabled encryption for the transmissions of after-hours eWarrants.
- Coordinated and monitored OSCA Cyber Security Training.
- Implemented new anti-malware protection software.
- For the second year, conducted a campaign to increase Cyber Security Awareness.

Infrastructure enhancements:

- Upgraded 217 workstations and 33 laptops.
- Replaced 492 VOIP phones.
- Replaced 171 PCs, 47 laptops, 8 printers, 10 desktop scanners and 3 video conferencing setups.
- Increased wireless coverage and backup in the Records Center.
- Replaced the Court's Storage Access Network.
- Replaced battery backup devices in order to increase minutes of uninterrupted service.
- Hired a desktop systems engineer to maintain and upgrade desktops and laptops throughout the Court.

Customer Service enhancements:

- Implemented an on-line employee phone directory from the Epicor database.
- Conducted an automated Help Desk customer service survey.
- Assisted in location moves and renovations.
- Provided FTR Gold refresher training to Division staff.
- Implemented procedures to technologically accommodate visiting judges.

CIT

Court Information Technology (CIT)	2013	2016	2017
Help Desk Tickets	10,398	11,493	10,681
Unclaimed Property Extract	4,605	4,620	3,631
Unclaimed Property Escheated/Set To Escheat	4,079	3,928	2,980
DLT Parcels	1,103	826	679
DLT Gross Sale Revenue	\$ 2,259,653	\$3,014,646	\$3,149,506

Comparing 2017 to 2016:

- ◇ The helpdesk opened 7% fewer tickets.
- ◇ Unclaimed property extracts decreased 21%.
- ◇ Unclaimed property escheated or set to escheat decreased 24%.
- ◇ DLT parcels offered for sale decreased 18%, but gross sales revenues increased 4%.

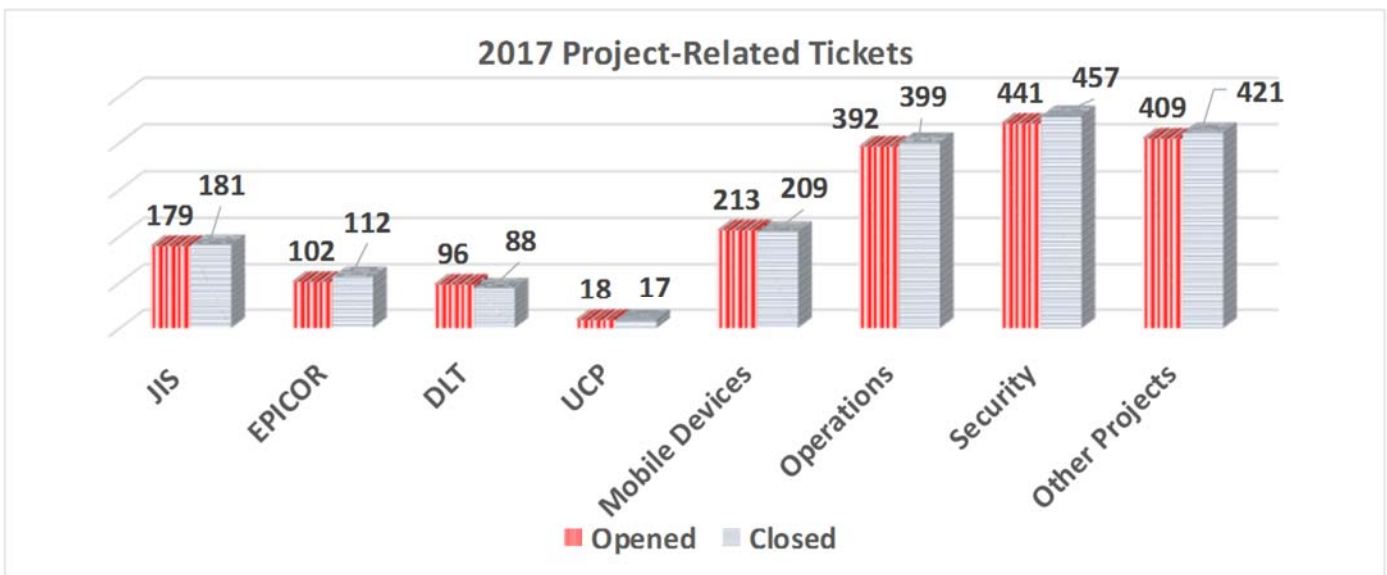
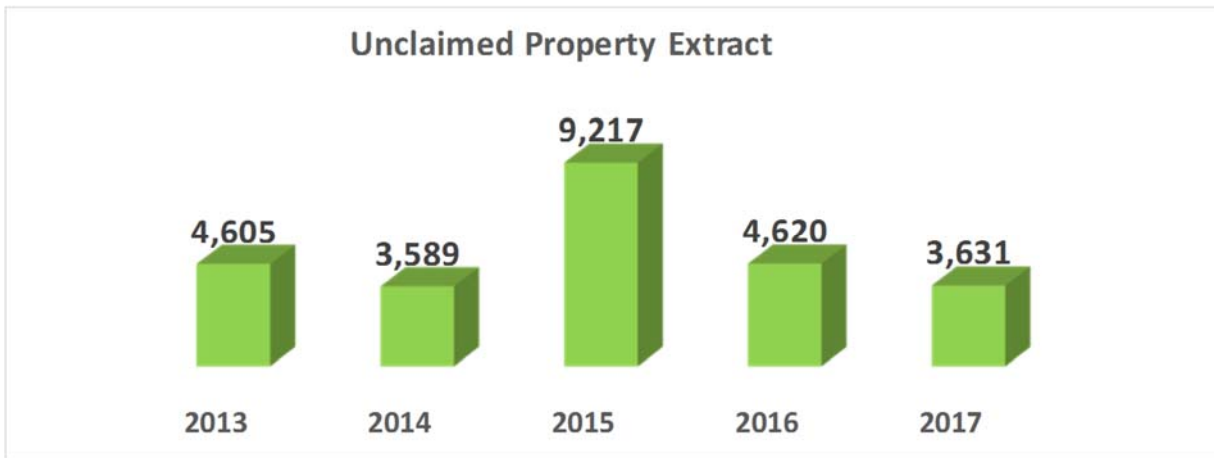
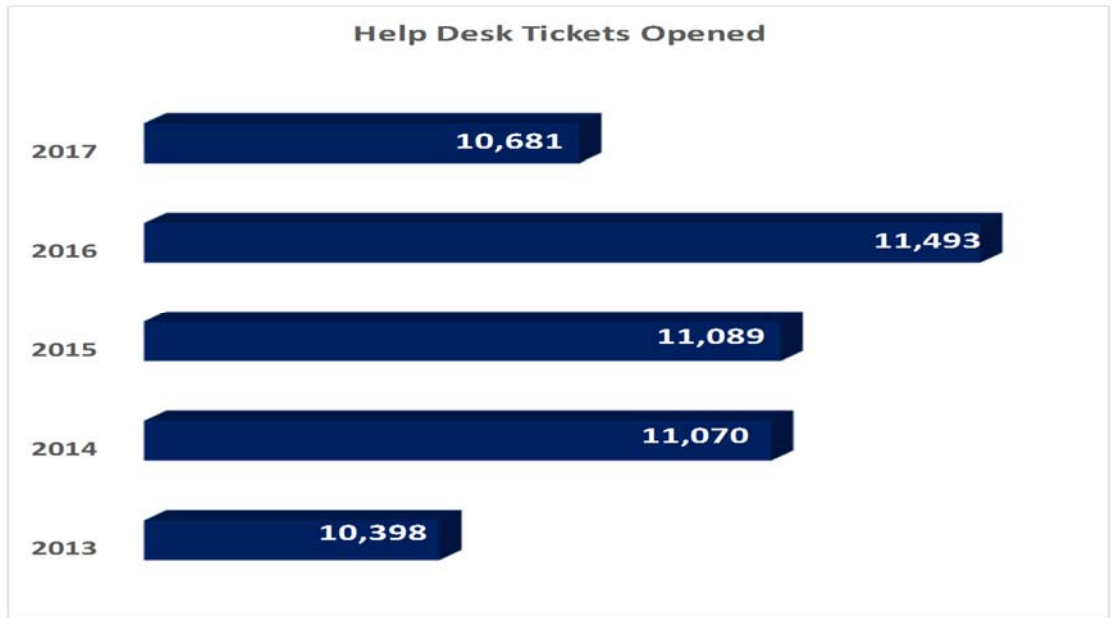
Comparing 2017 to 2013:

- ◇ Tickets opened by the helpdesk increased 3%.
- ◇ Unclaimed property extracts decreased 21%.
- ◇ Unclaimed property escheated or set to escheat decreased 27%.
- ◇ DLT parcels offered for sale decreased 38%, but gross sales revenues increased 39%.

CIT performs the initial Unclaimed Property extracts for all departments and then finalizes those to be escheated annually.

Over years, CIT has developed, extended and maintained an application used in the annual Delinquent Land Tax sale. This includes the importing of property descriptions on parcels, the recording of receipts and payee information related to pre-sale deposits as well as those monies collected during the sale, and the after sale disbursements of unused deposits and disbursements as ordered by the Court.

COURT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



ST LOUIS CIRCUITS

**2017 MISSOURI FISCAL YEAR
(JULY 1, 2016—JUNE 30, 2017)**

**COMPARISONS TO ST. LOUIS COUNTY (21ST CIRCUIT)
AND TO ST. LOUIS CITY (22ND CIRCUIT)**

	16th Circuit	21st Circuit	22nd Circuit
Population*	691,801	998,581	311,404
Judges	29	33	27
Commissioners	6	9	5
Total Filings	64,791	88,875	50,679
Total Dispositions	63,367	83,752	43,936
Cases Pending 6/30/2017	42,586	55,724	43,557

* U.S. Census 2015 Population

