

THE JUDICIARY 2011

16TH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT COURT
OF JACKSON
COUNTY,
MISSOURI

STATE OF



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16TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Presiding Judge

Division 1

Division 2

Division 3

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Division 8

Division 9

Division 10

Division 11

Division 12

Division 13

Division 14

Division 15

Division 16

Division 17

Division 18

Division 19

Division 25

Division 26

Division 27

Division 28

Division 29

Division 30

Division 31

Division 32

Division 33

Division 40

Division 41

Division 42

Division 43

Division 44

Division 50

Circuit Judge Charles E. Atwell

Circuit Judge Sandra C. Midkiff

Circuit Judge Michael Manners

Circuit Judge David M. Byrn

Circuit Judge Justine E. Del Muro

Circuit Judge James F. Kanatzar

Circuit Judge J. Dale Youngs

Circuit Judge Ann Mesle

Circuit Judge Peggy S. McGraw

Circuit Judge Joel F. May

Circuit Judge Charles E. Atwell

Circuit Judge W. Brent Powell

Circuit Judge Edith L. Messina

Circuit Judge Charles H. McKenzie

Circuit Judge John Torrence

Circuit Judge Robert M. Schieber

Circuit Judge Marco Roldan

Circuit Judge Jack R. Grate

Circuit Judge Brian C. Wimes

Circuit Judge Kathleen A. Forsyth

Commissioner Daniel P. Wheeler

Dep. Commissioner S. Margene Burnett

Associate Circuit Judge Richard T. Standridge

Associate Circuit Judge Kenneth R. Garrett III

Associate Circuit Judge Gregory B. Gillis

Associate Circuit Judge Vernon E. Scoville III

Associate Circuit Judge Margaret L. Sauer

Associate Circuit Judge Twila K. Rigby

Associate Circuit Judge Christine T. Sill-Rogers

Associate Circuit Judge Robert L. Trout

Associate Circuit Judge Jeffrey Bushur

Commissioner Geoffrey Allen

Commissioner Martina L. Peterson

Commissioner Sherrill L. Rosen

Commissioner Patrick Campbell

Commissioner Molly Merrigan

Commissioner David J. Fry

Court Administrator

Deputy Court Admin./Family Court Services

Deputy Court Admin./Legal Counsel

Deputy Court Admin./Jury Supervisor

Teresa L. York

Jeff Eisenbeis

Harlene J. Hipsh

Tracy L. Smedley

The 2011 Annual Report of the 16th Judicial Circuit comes on the eve of the court becoming mostly paperless. As this publication goes to press, ten (10) divisions in our Circuit are, in one way or another, working with paper-free civil dockets. This shift in culture will have a wide sweeping and lasting effect on the Court.

Currently our paperless environment is the result of scanning paper submissions in Civil Records. However, we anxiously wait for a date certain from the Office of the State Courts Administrator to initiate electronic filing. The Missouri Supreme Court and all Missouri Appellate Courts are working in an e-filing environment. In 2011, St. Charles was the first Circuit Court to pilot the JIS e-filing interface.

As technology takes the forefront in our daily work lives, we have also developed a Memorandum of Understanding with various law enforcement agencies to initiate electronic warrants, started regular use of video conferencing in Probate Court (using equipment provided to us by Truman Medical Center) and continued with our many successful community efforts through the Family Court.

With all this change, there is some trepidation. Our employees are working very hard, facing the challenges with determination and commitment even as their numbers have decreased due to a loss of five (5) permanent State paid clerk positions in 2011. Everyone is finding the idea of a court with little to no paper daunting, but we are confident that these efforts will bring many rewards.

Case Filings

2011 saw domestic case filings increase by 16%, a significant rise. Overall, however, our numbers remained fairly stable. The Court met the State Time Standards in Circuit, Associate Circuit & Domestic cases.

Jury Tried Cases

While civil jury trial numbers remained unchanged, there were 24% fewer criminal jury tried cases in 2011. This is a trend we have seen over the past several years. We summon jurors to both the Kansas City and Independence Courthouses. We appreciate the citizens of our County participating in the judicial system and recognize the importance of their contribution.

Family Court Activities

The number of youths admitted to detention facilities continued to decline largely due to the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI), a community based program that has been hugely successful.

In January, 2011, Probation and Aftercare Services were granted re-accreditation by the American Correctional Association. The Home Detention Unit was conferred its initial accreditation by the ACA in 2011, receiving a 100% compliance in performance standards.

The Court remains extremely proud of the Family Court, its accomplishments and dedication to the youth of Jackson County.

Courthouse Renovation

Construction began in the Probate Division at Kansas City to provide another courtroom for the use of the two Probate Commissioners. Those renovations are almost complete as I write this, and a formal ceremony will be held soon to commemorate a much-needed courtroom.

Managerial Transitions

In order to meet the need to transition to a paperless court, changes in some department structure and Management Staff were made in 2011. With the retirement of Forrest Bertsch, long time Director of Civil Process, the data clerks from that department were integrated into Civil Records. Delinquent Land Taxes and our execution/service deputies were placed under the management of the Legal Department.

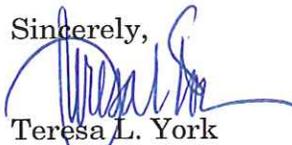
After almost 30 years as Director of Civil Records, Mary Ann McClure agreed to accept the position of Administrator of Division Training & Support to work as the liaison with Divisions as they transition to electronic filing. Verna Proctor, a former Assistant Director in Civil Records, was then promoted to the position of Director of Civil Records.

In 2011, Tom Boyd, previously the Assistant Director of Computer Services, was promoted to Director of Technology Projects. We also promoted Roselyn Turner to our chief Fiscal Officer position and Rodney Schonberger to Director of Court Services. A copy of our Court Organizational Chart can be found at the end of this report.

The Court continues to work with the State and County to provide the best service possible to the public and the bar. Our future projects include a revision of our website, reduction of the millions of documents now housed at our archive location, and re-accreditation of various facilities at the Family Court.

My thanks, as always, to the Court's excellent management staff.

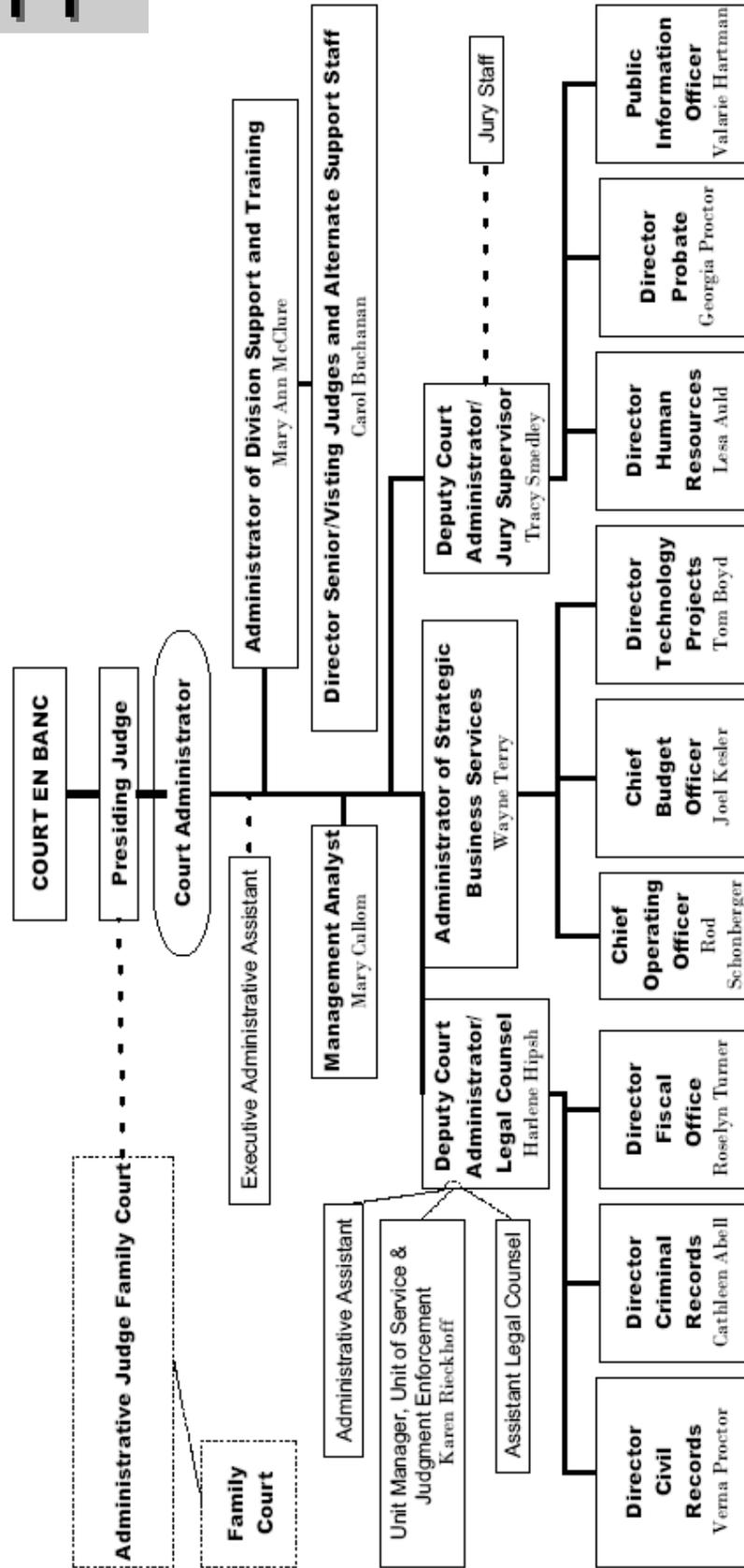
Sincerely,



Teresa L. York
Court Administrator
Circuit Court of Jackson County

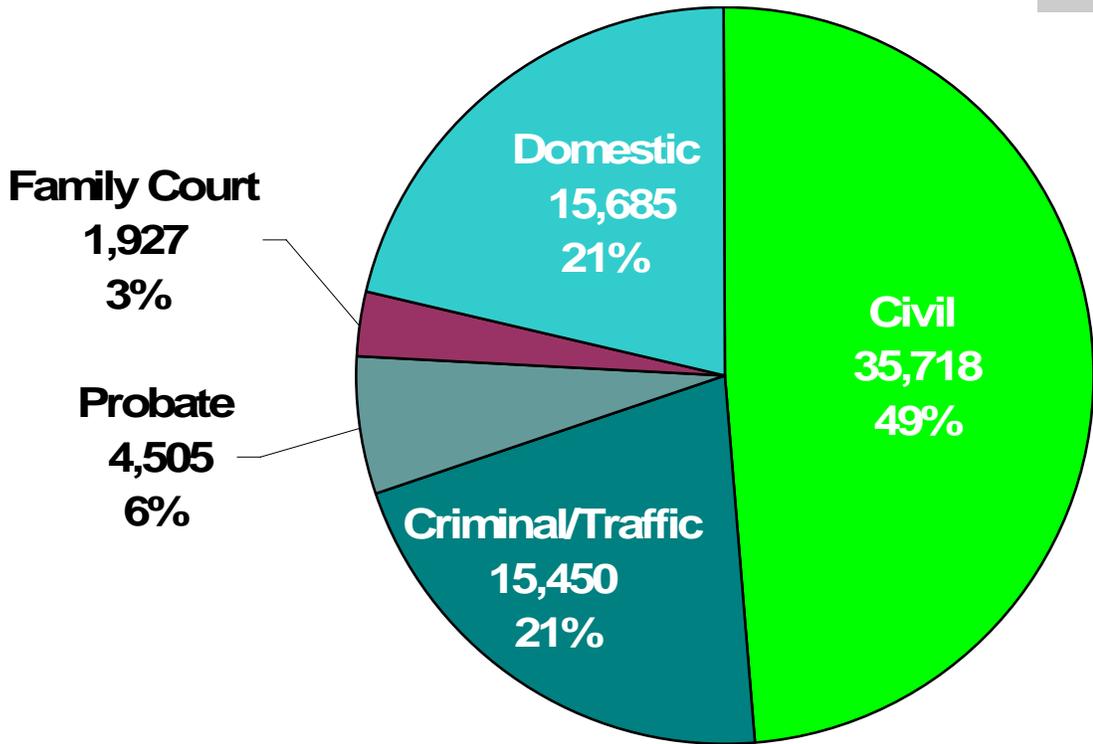
COURT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

2011



2011

COURT FILINGS



From 2010 to 2011, the Court saw the following changes in Civil Records:

- Circuit Civil filings declined by 14%.
- Circuit Civil dispositions declined 13% in Kansas City but remained unchanged in Independence.
- The greatest percentage of Circuit Civil filings were Personal Injury—Vehicular (14.9%) and Breach of Contract (11.5%).
- Associate Circuit Civil filings declined by 13% overall but only by 8% in Independence.
- The greatest percentage of Associate Circuit Civil filings were Suits on Account (33.9%) and Breach of Contract (17.9%) .
- Reversing the trends, filings increased by 16% for Domestic cases.
- Pro se filings for dissolutions with children remained at 21%, but rose for dissolutions without children from 29% to 32%.
- Circuit Civil, Associate Civil and Domestic Relations cases each met the State time standards for the State’s fiscal year.

From 2001 to 2011, Associate Circuit

Civil filings increased 21% , Domestic Relations filing increased 42%, Circuit Civil filings fell 7% and Domestic Violence filings remained unchanged.

Circuit Civil

Filings	3,439
Dispositions	3,579
Jury Trials	62
Court Trials	193
Pending Cases 12/31/11	3,074

Associate Circuit Civil

Filings	31,205
Dispositions	32,541
Jury Trials	1
Court Trials	1,703
Pending Cases 12/31/11	8,864

Domestic Relations

Filings	8,692
Dispositions	6,824
Court Trials	790
Pending Cases 12/31/11	4,338

Domestic Violence

Filings	6,993
Dispositions	6,891
Ex Parte Orders of Protection	4,918
Full Orders of Protection	2,230
Pending Cases 12/31/11	554

Note: Figures for jury trials are captured as recorded in JIS. The trial numbers exclude jury trials that end in settlements, directed verdicts or mistrials.

Although Civil Records permanently lost 5 FTE positions mid-year, 7 vacant positions were filled when the State hiring freeze was lifted.

During 2011, protective orders entered in JIS commenced automatically updating the MULES and ALERT systems of local law enforcement. Thus the order is immediately available for the security of the victim and the information of the officers called upon to enforce the order.

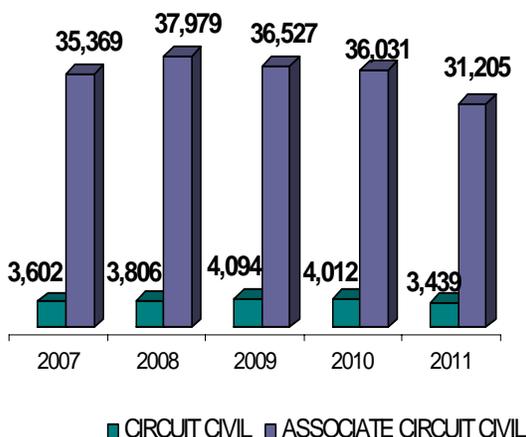
The Execution and Garnishment Section in Kansas City followed the lead of Independence in scanning and linking judgments in the DMS system attached to JIS. These scanned judgments are then used to process requests for executions and garnishments. This process eliminates either pulling the file from the shelf or ordering the file from the Records Center.

Requests for ACJ Transcripts of Judgment no longer require the creation of a sub-case in JIS, making processing these requests more efficient. Further time savings will be realized if 2012 legislation to remove the current certification requirement is adopted.

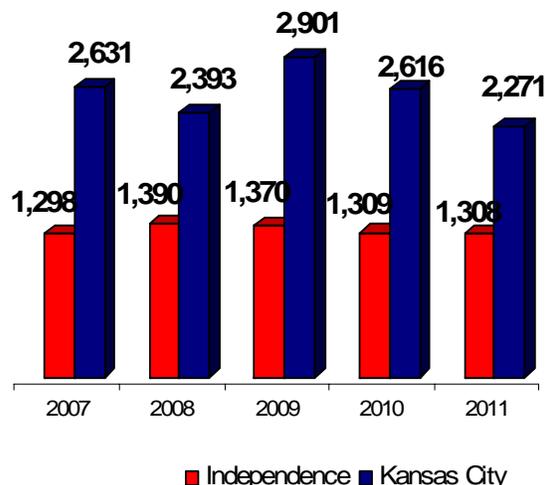
Finally, the Civil Records Department underwent extensive work flow sessions beginning in the Fall, 2011, to prepare for 100% scanning and the introduction of electronic files and paperless dockets in 2012.

Trends..

Circuit Civil and Associate Circuit Civil Filings

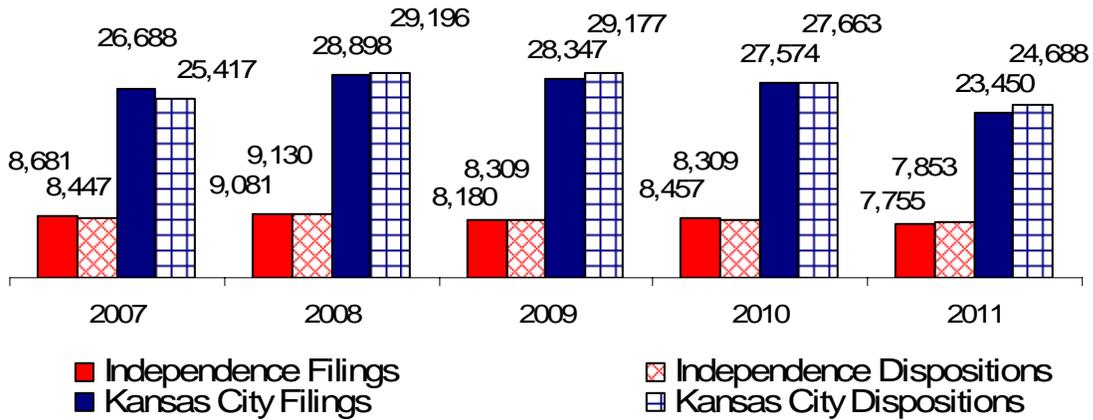


Circuit Civil Case Dispositions

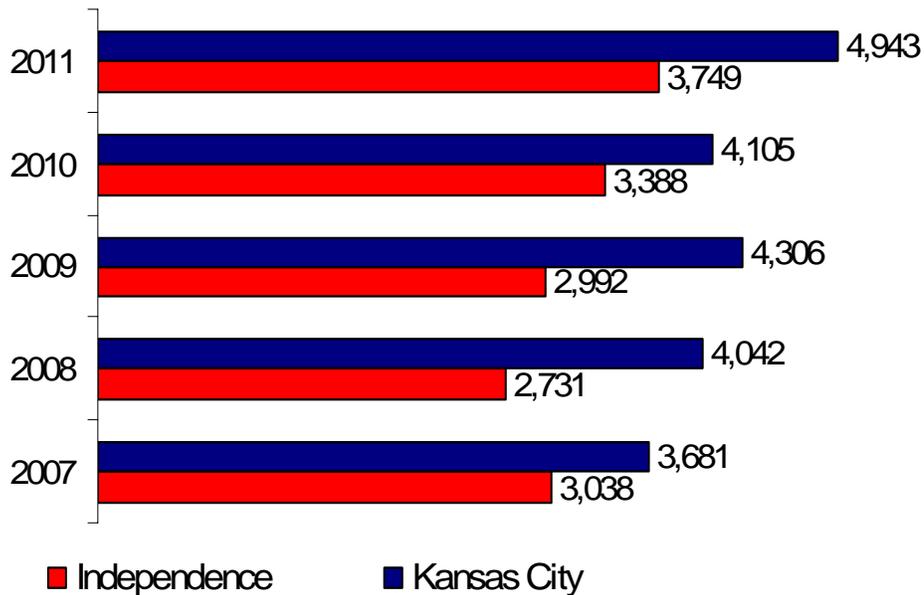


Trends..

Associate Circuit Civil Filings and Dispositions

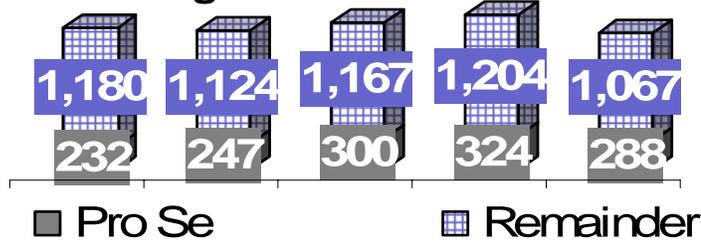


Domestic Relations Filings

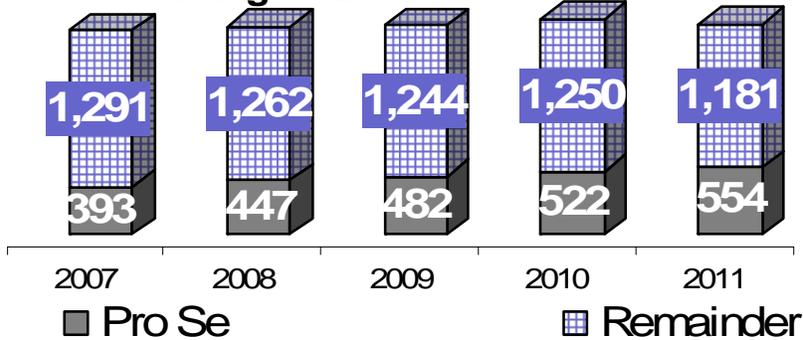


Trends..

Pro Se Filings — Dissolutions with Children

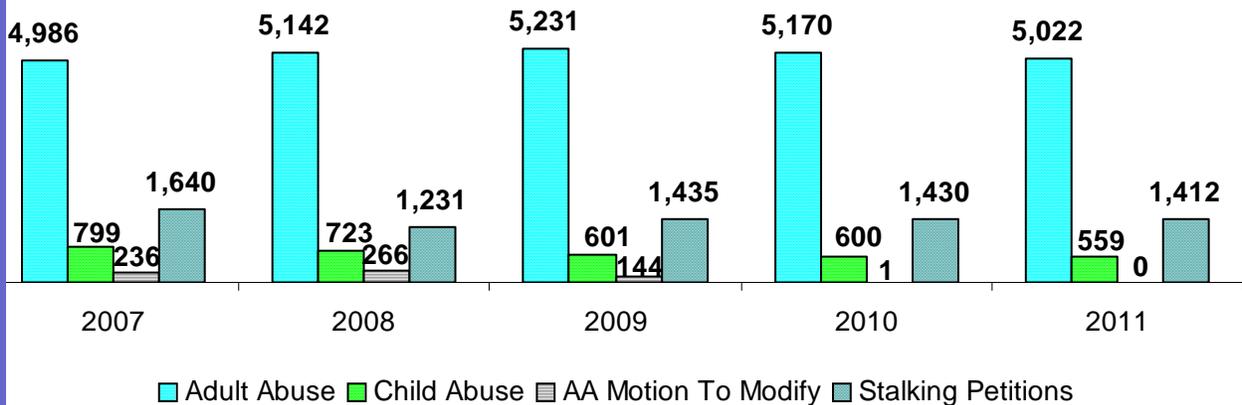


Pro Se Filings — Dissolutions without Children

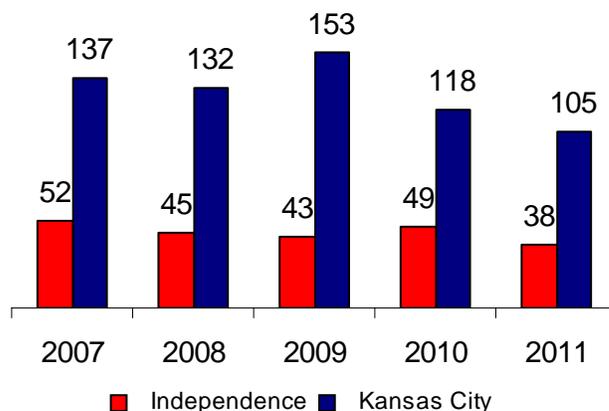


CIVIL

Domestic Violence Filings by Category

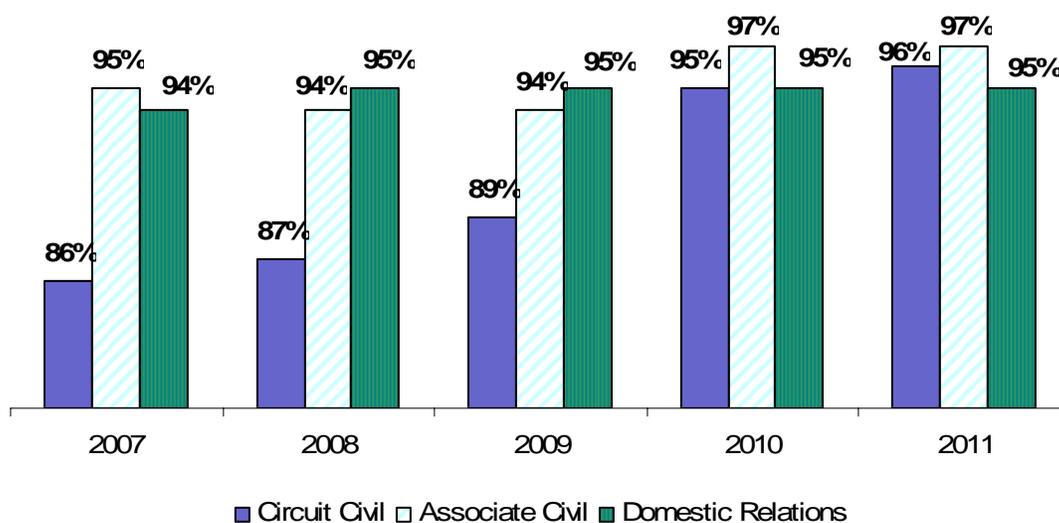


Jury Trials



Time Standards

The statewide time standard for circuit civil cases states that 95% of cases be disposed with 30 months. For associate circuit civil and domestic relations cases, the standards are for 95% to be disposed within 12 months and 14 months, respectively. The chart below illustrates the percentages of 16th Circuit cases meeting these standards.



Percentages shown are based on June 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011 State fiscal year.

From 2010 to 2011, the Court saw the following changes in Criminal Records:

- Both felony filings and felony dispositions grew by 1%, disposition by guilty plea growing by 5%.
- The greatest percentage of charges in the felony filings were Drug (28%), followed by DWI and Burglary (9% each).
- Misdemeanor filings increased by 17% in Independence but fell in Kansas City by 47%.
- The greatest percentage of charges in misdemeanor filings were Motor Vehicle Violations (80%) .
- Continuing a decline from 2006, municipal appeals fell by 39% while traffic filings increased for the first time since 2006 by 18%.
- Drug Treatment Court filings increased by 26%, consistent with the increase in drug-related felony filings but dispositions fell by 36%.
- 94% of circuit felony cases met statewide time standards.
- Only 88% of associate felony cases met time standards, but this has been improving since 2009.

FELONIES

Filings	4,495
Dispositions	4,271
Jury Trials	41
Court Trials	18
Pending 12/31/11	5,407

MISDEMEANORS

Filings	3,594
Dispositions	3,761
Court Trials	15
Pending 12/31/11	5,961

TRAFFIC

Filings	3,276
Dispositions	2,937

MUNICIPAL APPEALS

Filings	238
Dispositions	252
Jury Trials	6
Court Trials	21

SEARCH WARRANTS

Filings	1,234
Dispositions	1,222

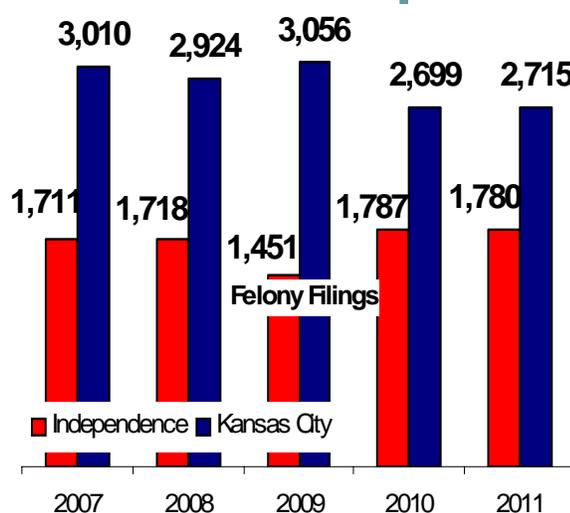
Note: Figures for jury trials are captured as recorded in JIS. The trial numbers exclude jury trials that end in pleas or mistrials.

In all cases filed since January 1, 2011, all documents have been scanned and attached to corresponding docket entries in JIS. Back scanning of older cases has been undertaken when time and resources permit.

The transfer interface used by the Jackson County Prosecutor still lacks the ability to electronically transfer documents for new case filings. The lack of this facility results in extensive clerical time and equipment to process paper documents. The e-filing system developed by OSCA and much anticipated locally will not encompass these initial filings. A change in the Prosecutor's interface to accommodate the transmission of electronic documents is pending.

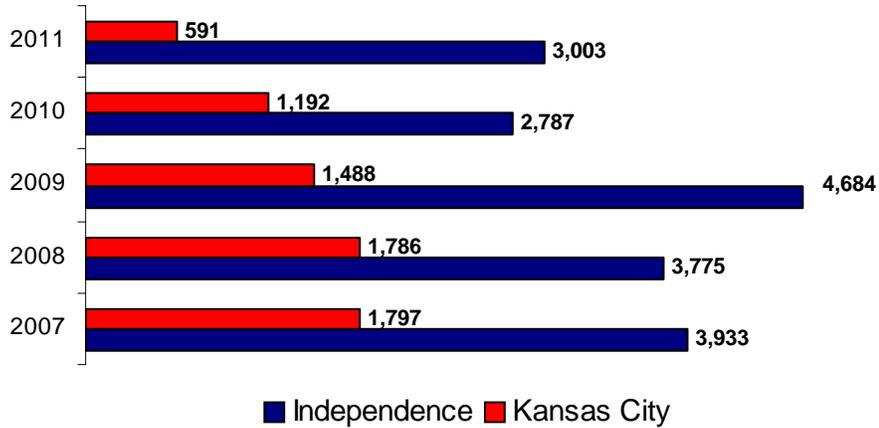
Through collaboration with partner agencies, an electronic filing process was developed in 2011 for search warrants. There are 3 phases to the rollout. The pilot is restricted to the Kansas City Police Department and to after-hours search warrants. It launches in April, 2012. The second phase is anticipated for the Fall, 2012 and will encompass search warrants during normal business hours. The second phase will also be restricted to KCPD. The third phase will add all other law enforcement agencies in the Circuit and will provide for after-hour and regular hour search warrants.

Staff relocation and the realignment of job duties have proved necessary to compensate for reduced staffing and to adjust to increased population and filings in Eastern Jackson County. 2.5 F.T.E. positions were lost permanently in 2011 due to State funding cuts. Additionally 1.5 positions were transferred from the Kansas City Office to the Independence Office to adjust to the increased volume in Independence.

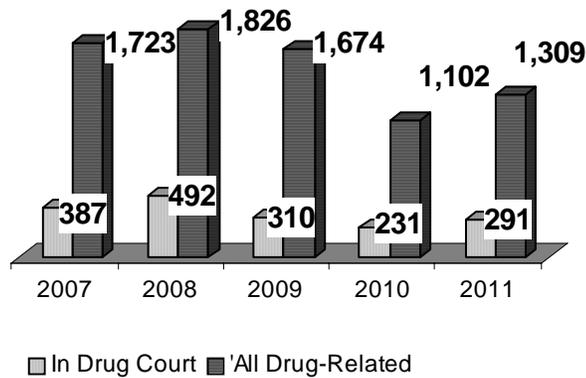


Trends..

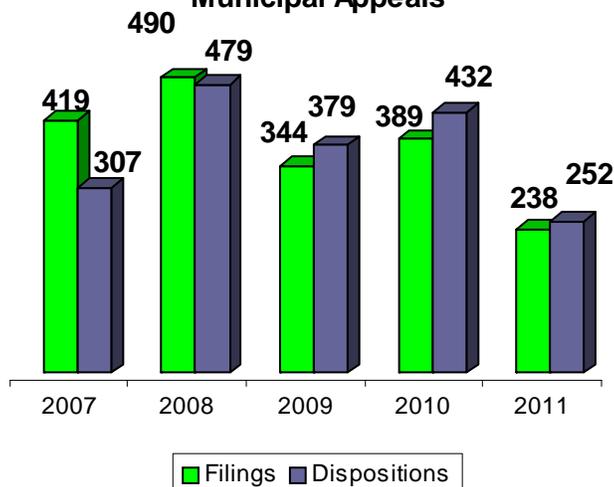
Misdemeanor Filings



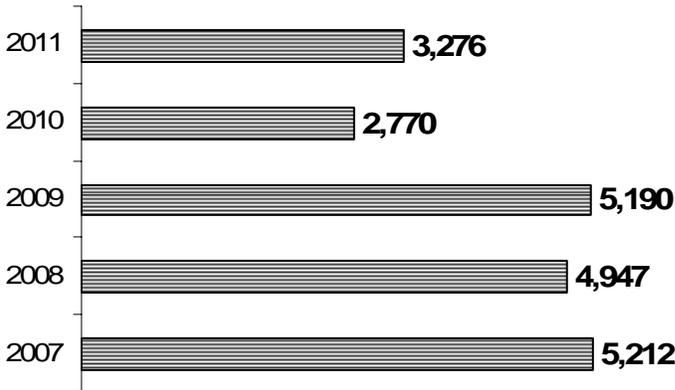
Drug Court and Drug-Related Filings



Municipal Appeals

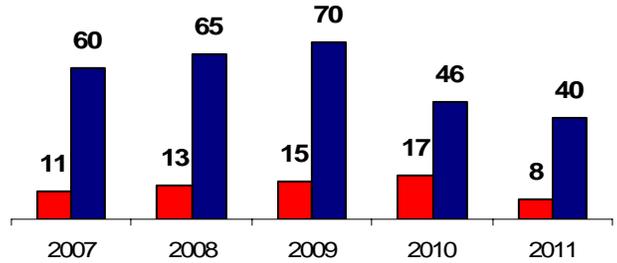


Traffic Filings



■ Independence
■ Kansas City

Criminal Jury Trials

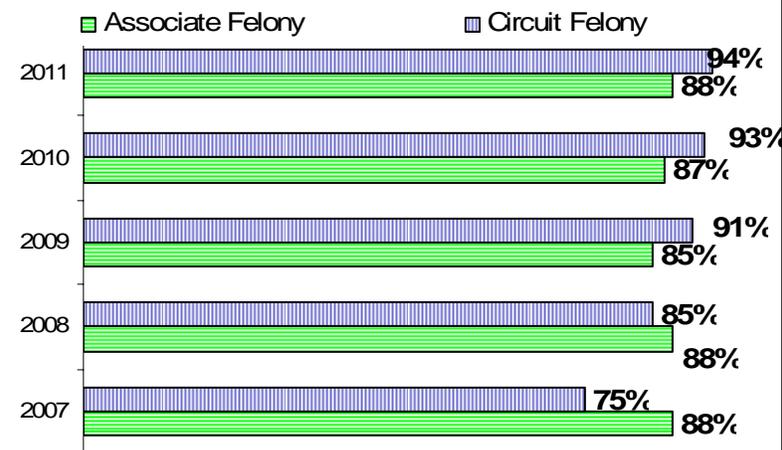


Time Standards

The statewide time standard for circuit felony cases states that 95% of cases be disposed within 14 months. For associate felonies, the standard is 95% disposed within 8 months. The chart below illustrates the percentages of 16th Circuit cases meeting these standards.

CRIMINAL

% Cases Meeting Time Standards



Percentages shown are based on June 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011 State fiscal year.

From 2010 to 2011, the Court saw the following changes in Probate:

- All filings increased by 10%.
- Guardianships and conservatorships for minors increased by 10%, for adults by 19%, and estate filings rose by 11%.
- Although filings increased, the pending caseload at the end of 2011 fell by 1% as dispositions kept up with the increased filings.

Beginning in 2011, all papers received in a probate case are now scanned as are all mental health cases. Files maintained on sexually violent predators are scanned as filed. Previously-filed cases are scanned as time allows.

Work flow meetings commenced to document current processes and to consider changes appropriate for electronic filing and paperless files.

FILINGS

Decedent Estates	489
Guardianships-Incapacitated	376
Guardianships-Minors	521
Involuntary Detention	196
Sexually Violent Predators --- Probable Cause Petitions	6

Total Filings 1,588

Dispositions

Decedent Estates	540
Guardianships-Incapacitated	295
Guardianships-Minors	528
Involuntary Detention	191
Sexually Violent Predators --- Probable Cause Petitions	12

Total Dispositions 1,566

Pending 12/31/2011

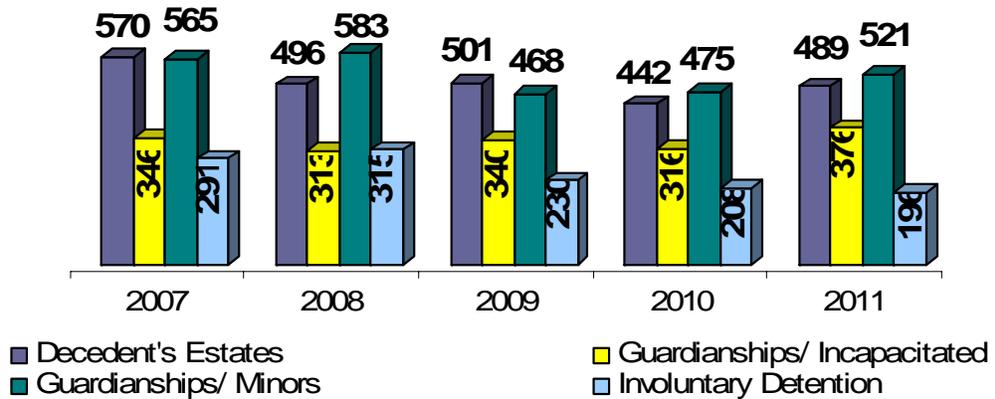
Decedent Estates	1,181
Guardianships/Adults	3,117
Guardianships/Minors	2,637
Involuntary Detention	19
Sexually Violent Predators --- Probable Cause Petitions	7

Total 6,961

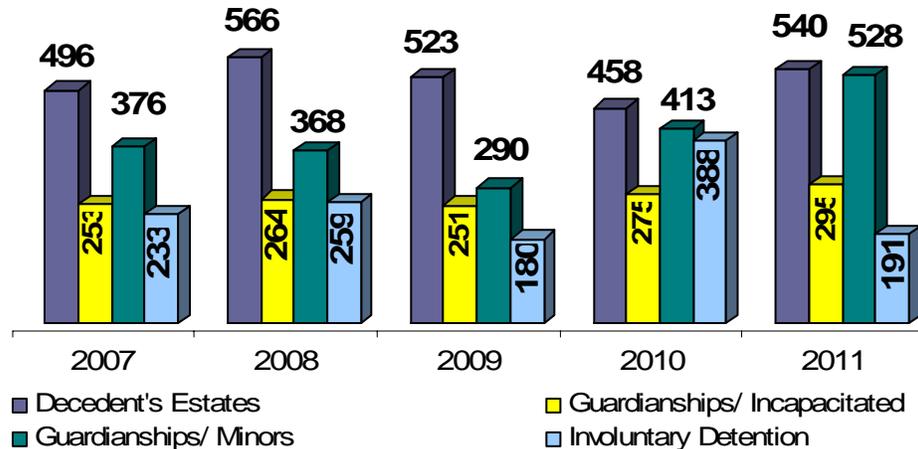
A 2-year major renovation of Kansas City's Probate areas approached completion. The principle objective has been to provide the space for a dedicated courtroom for the Commissioners. Increased caseloads and hearings have made finding alternate courtrooms for the Commissioners difficult. The new courtroom will have video conferencing equipment for mental health hearings thanks to Truman Medical Center.

Trends..

Filings by Case Type



Dispositions by Case Type



FAMILY COURT

From 2010 to 2011, the Family Court saw the following:

- Although delinquency referrals overall dropped by 15%, referrals for felony offenses as a percentage of those delinquency referrals rose from 39% in 2010 to 47% in 2011.
- Delinquency filings for violent offenses rose 15%, homicide filings rising from 4 in 2010 to 10 in 2011
- The number of youth admitted to McCune fell by 27%, and those admitted to Hilltop fell by 46%.
- 34% fewer youth were served by prevention and diversion programs.
- Enrollment in parent awareness courses fell by 13%, but enrollment in classes for never-married parents rose by 17%.

REFERRALS

Abuse -Neglect	981
Delinquency	1,343
Status Offenses	114

DELINQUENCY FILINGS

Violent	110
Nonviolent	101
Drug	9
Property	191
Other Delinquency Offenses	36
Certifications	45

OTHER FILINGS

Abuse -Neglect	970
Status Offenses	29
Adoptions	337
Termination of Parental Rights	144

YOUTH PLACED IN RESIDENTIAL FA-

Hilltop	45
McCune	40

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

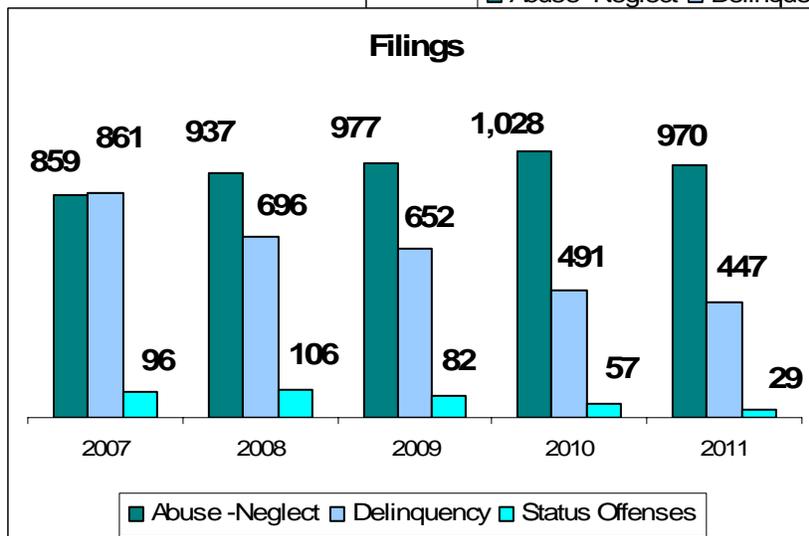
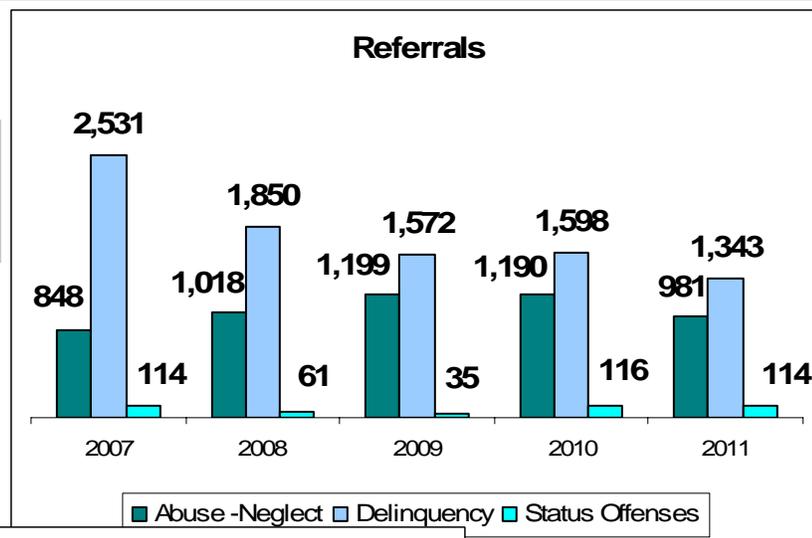
Field Services Cases Assigned	448
Mediation Referrals	431
Actual Visits/Exchanges	1,380
Parent Awareness	2,391
Prevention & Diversion	972

After receiving initial accreditation in 2008, the Probation and Aftercare Services Program was granted re-accreditation by the American Correctional Association in January, 2011.

At the same time, the Home Detention Unit received its initial accreditation by the ACA. In the audit preceding the grant, Home Detention achieved 100% compliance on 122 performance standards.

The Hilltop and McCune Residential Treatment Centers and the Juvenile Detention Facility were initially accredited in 2009 and will be granted re-accreditation in 2012 following a February, 2012 audit.

Trends..



CIVIL PROCESSES

From 2010 to 2011, changes for Civil Process include:

- As civil filings declined, pre-judgment process declined marginally, but post-judgment process increased by 1%.
- 18% more parcels were ultimately offered for the delinquent land sale, 27% more parcels sold and 13% more revenue was generated in the delinquent tax sale.

Although not tracked in prior years, there were 3,060 parcels filed in petitions for delinquent taxes and 2,369 parcels with judgments entered for sale in 2011.

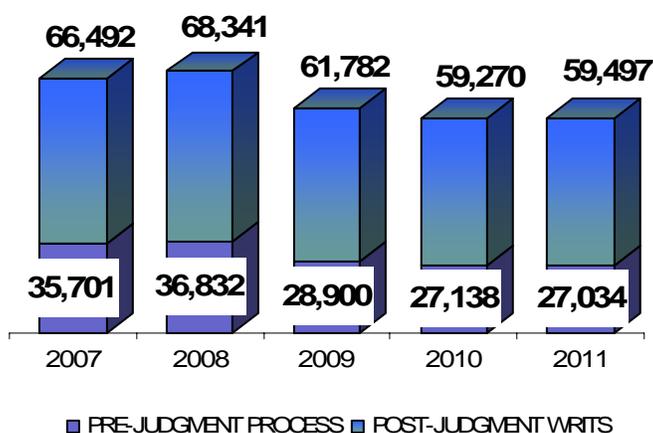
PRE-JUDGMENT PROCESS		2011
Number Served		17,539
Bad Addresses		4,706
Unable To Contact		4,789
Total		27,034
POST-JUDGMENT WRITS		
Levies And Garnishments		22,658
Evictions		3,798
Attachments and Replevins		75
Protective Orders Served		1,197
Protective Orders Unable To Contact		4,735
Total		32,463
TOTAL PAPERS		59,497
DELINQUENT LAND TAX SALES		
Parcels Offered for Sale		1,121
Parcels Sold		314
\$Gross Revenue Generated		1,521,070

In anticipation of electronic filing and paperless files, Civil Process participated in lengthy work flow sessions in the latter part of 2011.

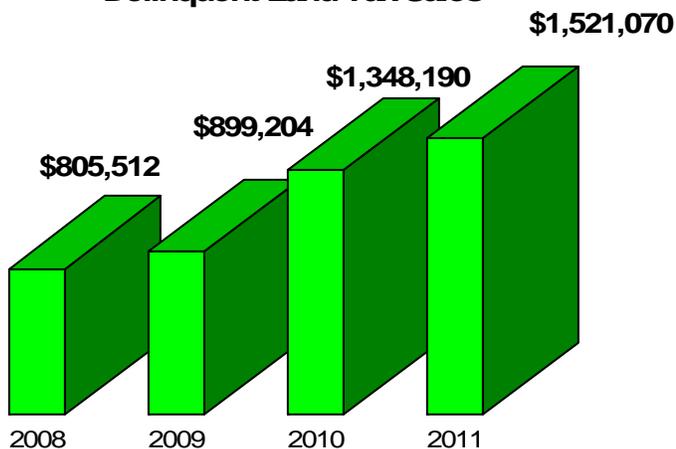
The Director of Civil Process retired in December, 2011, and the department underwent a major reorganization to commence the calendar year 2012.

Trends..

Civil Process Workloads



Delinquent Land Tax Sales



JURY

From 2010 to 2011, Jury changes included the following:

- 24% fewer criminal jury trials were conducted while the number of civil trials remained essentially unchanged.
- The Court brought in 8% fewer jurors, 16% fewer in Independence and 4% fewer in Kansas City.
- 16% fewer jurors were placed on panels and sent to divisions, 27% fewer in Independence and 11% fewer in Kansas City.
- Juror utilization measured by the number of jurors sent to divisions on panels compared to the number of qualified jurors available fell from 47% in 2010 to 43% in 2011.
- In 2011, the Court sequestered a jury in one of its criminal cases. The Court last sequestered a jury in 2008.

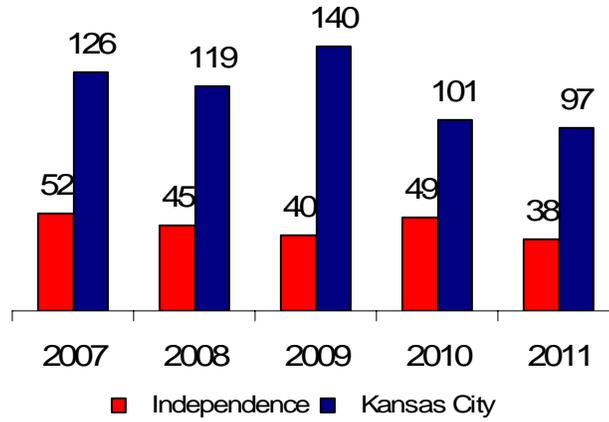
TRIALS		
	Civil	87
	Criminal	48
	Total	135
JURORS		
	Independence	4,238
	Kansas City	12,323
	Total Jurors Available	16,561
JURORS SENT TO DIVISIONS		
	Independence	1,921
	Kansas City	5,116
	Jurors Sent to Divisions	7,037
JUROR YIELD and UTILIZATION		
	Juror Yield	31%
	Utilization Measures	
	Sent for Jury Selection	43%
	Selected as Jurors	12%
NATURE OF JURY-TRIED ACTIONS		
Civil	Personal Injury	43%
	Contract	13%
	Malpractice	8%
Criminal	Murder	27%
	Burglary	14%
	Rape	10%

Note: Numbers include all juries sworn in a case. The case is counted although it may end in mistrial, settlement, directed verdict or plea and be recorded in JIS as other than a disposition by jury verdict. If a jury trial ends in a mistrial or hung jury and is retried in the same calendar year, the case will be counted each time that a jury is sworn. Jurors are summoned at random to either

Kansas City or Independence. Although a panel of qualified jurors may ultimately be utilized by a division sitting in the other location, the jurors and that particular case are accounted for in the location to which the jurors were originally summoned.

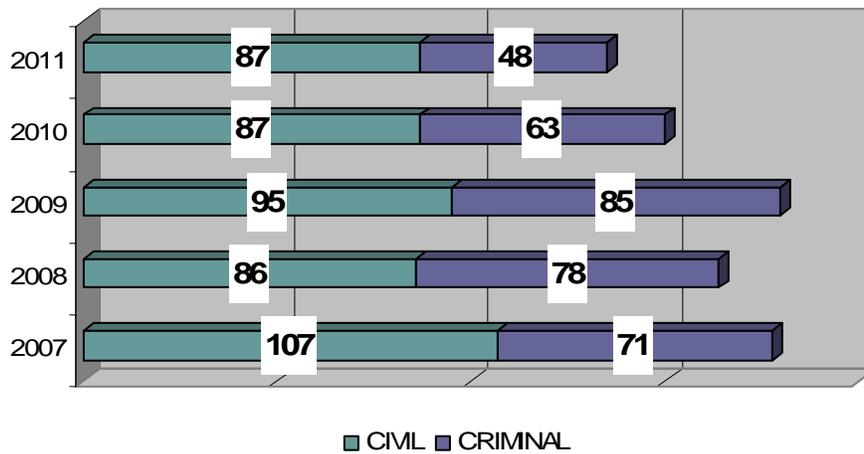
Trends..

Jury Trials



JURY

Civil/Criminal Jury Trials



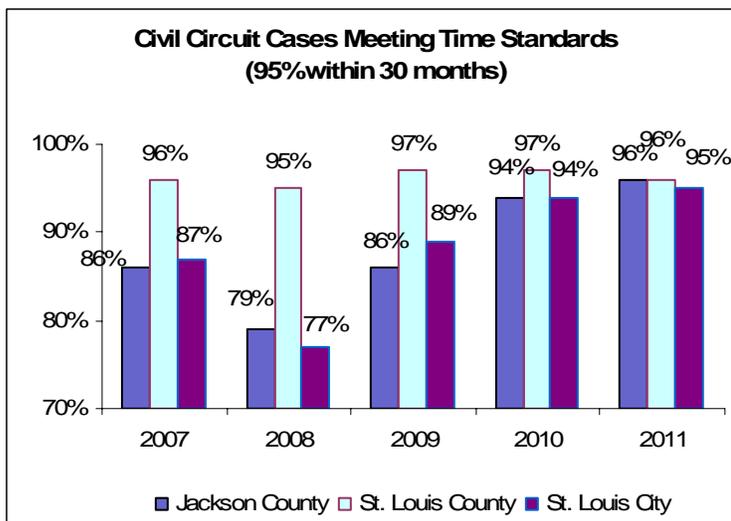
July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011	Jackson County	St. Louis County	St. Louis City
Population	674,158	998,954	319,294
Total Filings	70,706	101,791	44,109
Total Dispositions	70,396	101,114	44,688
Total Pending Cases	44,454	53,801	23,811
# of Judges (Circuit/Assoc. Circuit)	28	33	31
Average Filings per Judge	2,525	3,085	1,423
Average Dispositions per Judge	2,514	3,064	1,442

Data Source : Missouri Judicial Report Supplement for Fiscal Year 2011

Time Standards

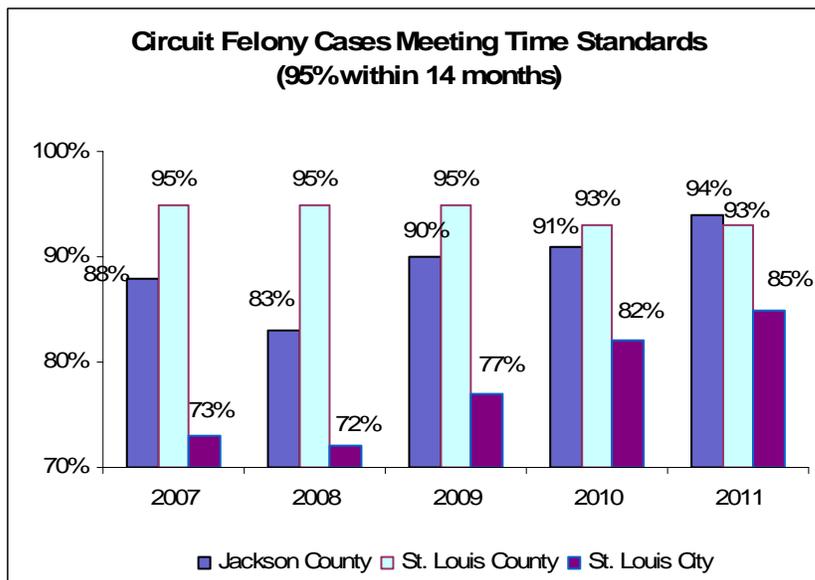
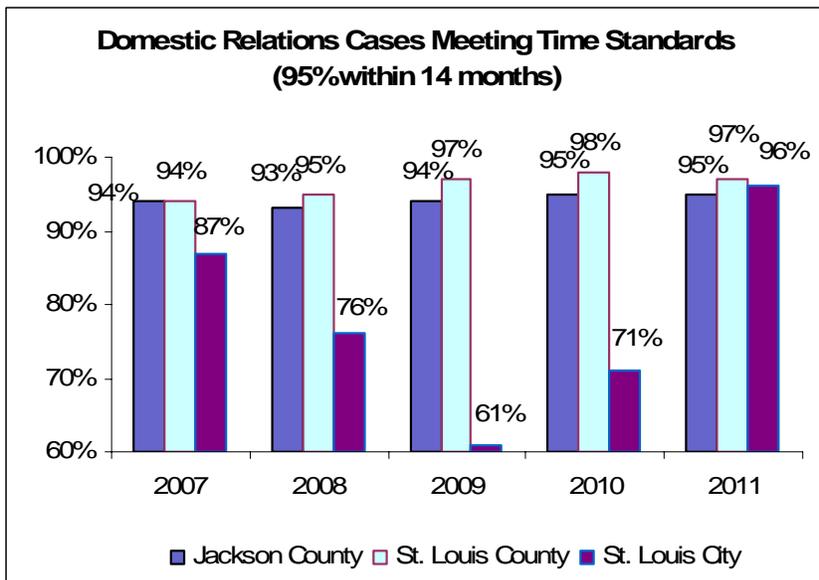
For Circuit Civil cases, the time standard requires 95% of cases to be disposed with 30 months. For Domestic Relations cases and for Circuit Felony cases, the time standards are 95% disposed within 14 months.

16TH CIRCUIT/
ST. LOUIS



Trends..

16TH CIRCUIT/ ST. LOUIS



The statistics shown are for the Missouri fiscal year July 1 to June 30. The data source for the statistics shown is the Missouri Judicial Report Supplement for Fiscal Year 2011.

CIRCUIT CIVIL						
FILINGS						
	Independence	1,342	1,394	1,481	1,461	1,249
	Kansas City	2,260	2,412	2,613	2,551	2,190
Total Filings		3,602	3,806	4,094	4,012	3,439
DISPOSITIONS						
	Independence	1,298	1,390	1,370	1,309	1,308
	Kansas City	2,631	2,393	2,901	2,616	2,271
Total Dispositions		3,929	3,783	4,271	3,925	3,579
MANNER OF DISPOSITION						
	Court Trial	107	143	175	157	193
	Jury Trial	82	84	68	55	62
	Judgment w/o Trial & Defaults	1,047	1,111	1,460	467	441
	Dismissed	2,575	2,328	2,402	2,106	1,994
	Removed To Federal Court	95	103	136	149	151
	Change Of Venue	48	41	30	92	53
	Other Dispositions				899	685
PENDING DECEMBER 31ST						
	Independence	1,168	1,188	1,148	1,272	1,308
	Kansas City	2,863	2,638	2,316	2,116	1,766
Total Pending		4,031	3,826	3,464	3,388	3,074

CIRCUIT CIVIL

NATURE OF ACTION	Filings					%
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
Appl to Enf Mechanics Lien	48	27	54	38	15	0.4%
Asbestos	25	18	6	11	9	0.3%
Breach of Contract	374	490	479	465	394	11.5%
CAFA Forfeit 513.600-513.64	104	71	67	62	54	1.6%
Chapter 536 State Agency Review	11	10	5	13	14	0.4%
Contract-Other	83	64	55	66	57	1.7%
Declaratory Judgment	66	69	77	95	59	1.7%
Delinquent Taxes	0	3	55	82	1	0.0%
DL Revoc Rew 302.311 RSMo.	33	33	21	12	19	0.6%
Eminent Domain/Condemn	25	14	14	11	8	0.2%
Employment Discrimination 213.111	126	148	176	188	177	5.2%
Exception	14	3	1	0	5	0.1%
Foreclosure	53	62	27	20	26	0.8%
Habeas Corpus	7	9	5	3	7	0.2%
Injunction	29	38	34	52	27	0.8%
Limit Driv Priv 302.309 RSMo	5	9	1	4	4	0.1%
Motion, Rules 29.15 or 24.035	90	146	126	120	105	3.1%
Other Administrative Review	39	36	52	49	30	0.9%
Other Extraordinary Remedy	24	38	45	28	28	0.8%
Other Miscellaneous Actions	211	236	252	184	192	5.6%
Other Real Estate Actions	706	708	106	115	110	3.2%
Other Tort	192	252	318	380	237	6.9%
Out of State Witness	60	59	67	76	61	1.8%
Partition	7	18	13	9	9	0.3%
Personal Injury-Fed Empl Liability	24	25	29	29	6	0.2%
Personal Injury-Malpractice	83	99	110	103	111	3.2%
Personal Injury-Other	208	243	271	336	340	9.9%
Personal Injury-Product Liability	17	20	23	20	10	0.3%
Personal Injury-Vehicular	475	522	554	514	511	14.9%
Promissory Note	80	110	151	125	134	3.9%
Property Damage	47	48	40	40	35	1.0%
Quiet Title	78	89	83	108	77	2.2%
Reg. Foreign Judgment (excl.DR)	145	153	126	122	96	2.8%
Rent and Possession	5	4	8	6	5	0.1%
Replevin	196	126	154	96	88	2.6%
Small Claims Trial de Novo	57	67	40	42	52	1.5%
Specific Performance	11	8	9	18	10	0.3%
Suit on Account	134	121	109	112	69	2.0%
Tax Action-Other	24	24	19	6	2	0.1%
TDN of DOR Decision	120	84	92	55	58	1.7%
Temporary Restraining Order	16	13	26	34	15	0.4%
Trial de Novo	37	47	52	52	44	1.3%
Will Contest 473.083	1	2	3	2	3	0.1%
Wrongful Death	83	86	139	100	111	3.2%
Circuit Civil Total	4,173	4,452	4,094	4,003	3,425	100.0%

ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT CIVIL					
FILINGS					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Independence	8,681	9,081	8,180	8,457	7,755
Kansas City	26,688	28,898	28,347	27,574	23,450
Total Filings	35,369	37,979	36,527	36,031	31,205
DISPOSITIONS					
Independence	8,447	9,130	8,309	8,309	7,853
Kansas City	25,417	29,196	29,177	27,663	24,688
Total Dispositions	33,864	38,326	37,486	35,972	32,541
MANNER OF DISPOSITION					
Court Trial	4,841	5,367	4,827	3,003	1,703
Jury Verdict	7	2	6	7	1
Judgment w/o Trial & Defaults	16,524	18,169	18,433	19,149	19,012
Dismissed	11,879	14,088	13,267	13,093	11,111
Change Of Venue	165	200	269	282	326
Other Dispositions	448	500	684	438	388
PENDING DECEMBER 31ST					
Independence	3,083	2,978	3,018	3,220	2,841
Kansas City	9,264	8,912	7,845	7,642	6,023
Total Pending	12,347	11,890	10,863	10,862	8,864

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ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT CIVIL

NATURE OF ACTION	Filings					%
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
Breach of Contract	5,192	7,701	8,834	8,314	5,764	17.9%
Contract-Other	269	476	545	406	296	0.9%
Declaratory Judgment	2	3	6	25	28	0.1%
Delinquent Tax	1,780	738	1,774	1,682	974	3.0%
DL Revoc Rewv 302.311RSMo.	45	57	78	58	40	0.1%
Expunge Arrest Record	4	12	22	28	24	0.1%
Gun Permit Appeal	42	2	17	14	22	0.1%
Landlord Complaint	2,708	2,492	1,525	2,199	3,034	9.4%
Limit Driving Priv 302.309 RSMo	36	29	29	21	28	0.1%
Misc Associate Civil-Other	588	278	268	113	128	0.4%
Other Administrative Review	96	61	79	29	17	0.1%
Other Real Estate Actions	35	37	37	44	29	0.1%
Other Tort	199	216	245	131	39	0.1%
Pers Injury-Other	40	26	21	22	7	0.0%
Pers Injury-Vehicular	112	106	85	84	68	0.2%
Promissory Note	1,128	1,502	1,341	1,348	1,317	4.1%
Property Damage	482	354	562	611	548	1.7%
Quiet Title	12	18	27	34	40	0.1%
Refus Breath 302.750/577.04	578	580	593	594	579	1.8%
Reg of Foreign Judgment	305	555	640	392	334	1.0%
Rent and Possession	6,064	5,990	6,477	5,679	5,115	15.8%
Replevin	125	114	140	119	101	0.3%
Small Claims over \$100	1,556	1,397	1,291	1,207	1,074	3.3%
Suit on Account	9,437	12,668	10,246	11,010	10,926	33.9%
Unlawful Detainer	2,260	2,568	1,645	1,867	1,740	5.4%
Associate Circuit Civil Total	33,095	37,980	36,527	36,031	32,272	100.0%

SMALL CLAIMS

FILINGS	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Independence	675	620	582	576	493
Kansas City	779	777	709	631	581
Total Filings	1,454	1,397	1,291	1,207	1,074
DISPOSITIONS					
Independence	842	663	487	492	509
Kansas City	797	781	671	649	595
Total Dispositions	1,639	1,444	1,158	1,141	1,104
MANNER OF DISPOSITION					
Court Trial	493	431	388	347	337
Judgment	316	294	233	236	206
Dismissed	830	715	535	551	531
Other	0	4	2	7	30
PENDING DECEMBER 31ST					
Independence	223	117	270	354	347
Kansas City	232	226	259	239	236
Total Pending	455	343	529	593	583

DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES

(Excludes Admin Orders & Domestic Violence)

FILINGS		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
	Independence	3,038	2,731	2,992	3,388	3,749
	Kansas City	3,681	4,042	4,306	4,105	4,943
Total Filings		6,719	6,773	7,298	7,493	8,692
DISPOSITIONS						
	Independence	2,642	2,972	2,672	2,951	3,317
	Kansas City	3,412	3,619	3,872	4,049	3,507
Total Dispositions		6,054	6,591	6,544	7,000	6,824
MANNER OF DISPOSITION						
	Court Trial	1,202	1,137	1,296	1,098	790
	Judgment w/o Trial/Default Judgments	3,800	4,038	3,138	4,201	4,156
	Dismissed	1,038	1,400	1,217	1,675	1,665
	Change Of Venue	14	16	23	29	21
	Other	0	0	870	0	192
CASES PENDING DECEMBER 31						
	Independence	1,647	1,303	1,532	1,649	1,643
	Kansas City	2,637	3,168	3,318	2,877	2,695
Total		4,284	4,471	4,850	4,526	4,338

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE					
FILINGS	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Independence	2,932	2,914	3,031	2,965	2,910
Kansas City	4,729	4,448	4,380	4,236	4,083
Total Filings	7,661	7,362	7,411	7,201	6,993
DISPOSITIONS					
Independence	2,853	2,999	2,958	2,969	2,871
Kansas City	4,619	4,465	4,364	4,063	4,020
Total Dispositions	7,472	7,464	7,322	7,032	6,891
FILING CATEGORIES					
Adult Abuse	4,986	5,142	5,231	5,170	5,022
Child Abuse	799	723	601	600	559
AA Motion To Modify	236	266	144	1	0
Stalking Petitions	1,640	1,231	1,435	1,430	1,412
MANNER OF DISPOSITION					
Court Trial	1,779	1,537	1,322	917	782
Judgment w/o Trial/Default	513	739	771	749	689
Dismissed	5,171	5,188	5,217	5,361	5,418
Change Of Venue	2	0	0	5	0
Other	7	0	12	0	2
CASES PENDING ON DECEMBER 31ST					
Independence	224	135	200	56	231
Kansas City	320	242	239	120	323
Total Pending	544	377	439	176	554

		FELONIES				
FILINGS		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
	Independence	1,711	1,718	1,451	1,787	1,780
	Kansas City	3,010	2,924	3,056	2,699	2,715
Total		4,721	4,642	4,507	4,486	4,495
		*** DISPOSITIONS				
	Independence	1,631	1,666	1,427	1,333	1,409
	Kansas City	3,086	3,279	3,639	2,886	2,862
Total		4,717	4,945	5,066	4,219	4,271
<i>***Cases bound over or transferred for jury trials to Circuit Judges by Associate Circuit Judges are excluded from totals.</i>						
		MANNER OF DISPOSITION				
	Court Dismissal	15	29	21	60	12
	State Dismissal	1,120	1,061	1,130	1,003	957
	Guilty By Court	10	13	27	10	17
	Guilty By Jury	32	47	47	40	27
	Guilty Plea	3,511	3,716	3,903	3,075	3,230
	Not Guilty By Court	3	2	2	0	1
	Not Guilty (Mental Illness)	1	21	21	22	11
	Not Guilty By Jury	21	15	15	8	14
	Other	4	41	8	1	2
		PENDING 12/31				
	Independence	1,884	1,724	1,523	1,803	2,090
	Kansas City	4,304	4,214	3,595	3,392	3,317
	Total	6,188	5,938	5,118	5,195	5,407

MISDEMEANORS						
FILINGS		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
	Independence	3,933	3,775	4,684	2,787	3,003
	Kansas City	1,797	1,786	1,488	1,192	591
Total		5,730	5,561	6,172	3,979	3,594
DISPOSITIONS***						
	Independence	3,924	3,847	4,437	3,127	2,698
	Kansas City	1,713	1,761	1,760	1,501	1,063
Total		5,637	5,608	6,197	4,628	3,761
<i>***Cases bound over or transferred for jury trials to Circuit Judges by Associate Circuit Judges are excluded from totals.</i>						
MANNER OF DISPOSITION						
	Court Dismissal	17	7	94	618	464
	State Dismissal	1,842	1,620	1,821	814	839
	Guilty By Court	12	35	21	19	9
	Guilty By Jury	1	0	3	0	0
	Guilty Plea	3,755	3,897	4,246	3,169	2,442
	Not Guilty By Court	8	3	6	4	6
	Not Guilty (Mental Illness)	0	0	0	0	0
	Not Guilty By Jury	0	0	1	2	0
	Other	2	46	5	2	1
PENDING 12/31						
	Independence	4,271	4,725	4,779	4,212	4,434
	Kansas City	2,317	2,210	2,021	1,871	1,527
Total Pending Misdemeanors		6,588	6,935	6,800	6,083	5,961

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TRAFFIC CASES

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Filings	5,212	4,947	5,190	2,770	3,276
Dispositions	5,149	5,340	5,753	3,458	2,937

MUNICIPAL APPEALS

FILINGS	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total	419	490	344	389	238
Independence	135	153	108	94	104
Kansas City	284	337	236	295	134
DISPOSITIONS					
Total	307	479	379	432	252
Independence	120	122	132	110	103
Kansas City	187	357	247	322	149
MANNER OF DISPOSITION					
Court Trial	23	25	23	32	21
Jury Trial	3	2	2	2	6
Guilty Plea	251	264	207	256	122
Dismissed By Court	37	31	31	39	25
Dismissed By City	113	65	70	59	37
Dismissed And Remanded	104	92	46	44	41

DRUG COURT CASES/ DRUG-RELATED CASES

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Filings In Drug Court Division	387	492	310	231	291
Total Cases Filed with Drug Charges Courtwide	1,723	1,826	1,674	1,102	1,309
CASE ACTIVITY					
Defendants Successfully Completing	109	182	202	222	139
Defendants Leaving Program	68	48	44	30	30
Defendants Terminated	146	249	133	114	67
Total Disposed By Drug Court	323	479	379	366	236
All Cases w/ Drug Charges Disposed Courtwide	1,527	1,626	1,647	1,309	1,280
DRUG DIVERSION CASES PENDING ON DECEMBER 31ST					
	742	717	594	394	451

PROBATE CASES					
FILINGS	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Decedent Estates	570	496	501	442	489
Guardianships/ Incapacitated	346	313	340	316	376
Guardianships/ Minors	565	583	468	475	521
Involuntary Detention	291	315	230	208	196
Sexually Violent Predators --- Probable Cause Petitions	3	4	3	4	6
Total Filings	1,775	1,711	1,542	1,445	1,588
DISPOSITIONS					
Decedent Estates	496	566	523	458	540
Guardianships/Incapacitated	253	264	251	275	295
Guardianships/Minors	376	368	290	413	528
Involuntary Detention	233	259	180	388	191
Sexually Violent Predators --- Probable Cause Petitions	2	2	2	5	12
Total Dispositions	1,360	1,459	1,246	1,539	1,566
OTHER PROBATE ACTIVITY					
Abbreviated Matters(Refusals of Letters,Small Estate Affidavits,Trust Estate, Determination of Heirship, Conditional Release, Will Admitted/Rejected)	990	1,126	1,142	1,436	1,217
Applications for 96 Hr. Detention, Evaluation & Treatment (Alcohol or Drug Abuse; Mentally Disordered)	1,140	1,155	1,153	2,289	1,033
Total	2,130	2,281	2,295	3,725	2,250
PROBATE CASES PENDING DECEMBER 31ST					
Decedent Estates	1,280	1,209	1,217	1,214	1,181
Guardianships/Adults	2,866	2,915	2,991	3,033	3,117
Guardianships/Minors	2,483	2,698	2,668	2,726	2,637
Involuntary Detention	110	165	201	20	19
Sexually Violent Predators --- Probable Cause Petitions	26	28	29	13	7
Total Cases Pending 12/31	6,552	6,850	7,106	7,006	6,961

FAMILY COURT					
REFERRALS	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Abuse -Neglect	848	1,018	1,199	1,190	981
Delinquency	2,531	1,850	1,572	1,598	1,343
Status Offenses	114	61	35	116	114
DELINQUENCY FILINGS					
Violent	114	87	94	96	110
Nonviolent	158	128	152	118	101
Drug	63	43	22	18	9
Property	455	360	323	204	191
Other Delinquency Offenses	71	78	61	55	36
Certifications	63	71	46	59	45
OTHER FILINGS					
Abuse -Neglect	859	937	977	1,028	970
Status Offenses	96	106	82	57	29
Adoptions	347	336	351	333	337
Termination of Parental Rights	119	103	103	154	144
YOUTH PLACED IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES					
Hilltop	98	79	76	83	45
McCune	85	58	61	55	40
PROGRAMS AND SERVICES					
Field Services Cases Assigned	632	685	624	636	448
Mediation Referrals	418	396	449	494	431
Actual Visits/ Exchanges	733	812	839	944	1,380
Parent Awareness	2,110	2,736	2,808	2,748	2,391
Prevention & Diversion	1,867	1,330	1,368	1,467	972

CIVIL PROCESS						
PRE-JUDGMENT PROCESS	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
Number Served	23,688	24,689	19,578	18,042	17,539	
Bad Addresses	6,922	7,273	5,486	4,957	4,706	
Unable To Contact	5,091	4,870	3,836	4,139	4,789	
Total	35,701	36,832	28,900	27,138	27,034	
POST-JUDGMENT WRITS						
Levies And Garnishments	18,985	20,662	22,214	22,038	22,658	
Evictions	4,889	4,849	4,268	3,746	3,798	
Attachments and Replevins	267	176	231	138	75	
Protective Orders Served	1,557	1,327	1,364	1,597	1,197	
Protective Orders Unable To Contact	5,093	4,495	4,805	4,613	4,735	
Total	30,791	31,509	32,882	32,132	32,463	
TOTAL PAPERS	66,492	68,341	61,782	59,270	59,497	
DELINQUENT LAND TAX SALES						
Parcels Offered for Sale		550	713	952	1,121	
Parcels Sold		171	192	248	314	
\$Gross Revenue Generated		805,512	899,204	1,348,190	1,521,070	

		JURY				
CIVIL		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
	Independence	41	32	25	32	30
	Kansas City	66	54	70	55	57
Total Civil Trials		107	86	95	87	87
CRIMINAL						
	Independence	11	13	15	17	8
	Kansas City	60	65	70	46	40
Total Criminal Trials		71	78	85	63	48
TOTAL JURY TRIALS		178	164	180	150	135
<i>Civil figures include Probate trials. Criminal Figures include Municipal Appeals trials.</i>						
JURORS QUALIFIED						
	Independence	5,672	5,578	4,753	5,068	4,238
	Kansas City	11,646	12,872	13,222	12,873	12,323
Total Jurors Available		17,318	18,450	17,975	17,941	16,561
JURORS SENT TO DIVISIONS						
	Independence	2,743	2,463	2,117	2,641	1,921
	Kansas City	6,585	6,149	7,325	5,724	5,116
Total Jurors Sent to Divisions		9,328	8,612	9,442	8,365	7,037
JUROR UTILIZATION (Juror Sent to Divisions/ Available Jurors)						
		54%	47%	53%	47%	43%