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1984
STATE TRIAL COURT JURISDICTION GUIDE
FOR STATISTICAL REPORTING

Summary Tables

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A joint effort of the
Conference of State Court Administrators
and the
Court Statistics and Information Management Project
of the National Center for State Courts

WORKING DOCUMENT

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Role of COSCA

Like the annual report series itself, the jurisdiction guide could not have been undertaken without the support and cooperation of the members of the Conference of State Court Administrators. Completion of the jurisdiction guide profiles made large demands on AOC staff time and expertise, and their cooperation and assistance were invaluable. Many judges, court administrators, and clerks also participated in field checks to verify the accuracy of the profiles for their court, making an important contribution. Revisions and maintenance of the guide in the future should be much less time-consuming, except where court systems or information systems are substantially changed. The support and guidance of the COSCA CSIS Committee, whose names appear below, exemplifies the vital role COSCA plays in making available nation-wide state court caseload statistics.

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Introduction

The summary tables published in this State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting provide, in greatly condensed form, the information relating to completeness and comparability of state court statistics. These tables are derived from the individual court profiles in a much longer working document being used by the Court Statistics and Information Management Project to classify the caseload statistics of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Background and purpose

Preparation of the jurisdiction guide was an outgrowth of the automation of the database for the State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report series, implemented in 1983. The coding of the various data elements required a precision which at that time did not exist. For example, where states were reporting general terms (like "civil" and "criminal"), these statistics could only be coded as "unclassified" if the Court Statistics and Information Management Project (CSIM) staff did not know exactly what types of cases were included in those categories. Data in an unclassified category are not comparable to any other data. A second problem resulted when a case category that a court system handled was unidentified. If, for example, the case category "mental health" was missing in a state's statistics and it was unknown which court(s) in the system had jurisdiction over that case type, there was no way to tell whether caseload statistics for that category were unavailable or were collapsed into a broader category. Lack of these kinds of information made it impossible to determine which data were complete and comparable.

The jurisdiction guide was undertaken to permit the accurate coding of the annual report database. Since a major research effort would be required to gather the jurisdictional information needed, the Court Statistics and Information Systems (CSIS) Committee of the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) agreed that staff should at the same time ask other questions that significantly affect the comparability of caseload data. Issues such as how criminal cases are counted, the definition of a felony, how felonies are counted in the pre-indictment stage, how dollar limits in civil cases vary, and the like, affect the comparability of state court statistics. The jurisdiction guide would systematically gather as much information as possible regarding completeness and comparability of state court caseload statistics.

Methodology

The members of the Conference of State Court Administrators, at the behest of their CSIS Committee, agreed to complete jurisdiction profiles for each court in their state. Four trial court jurisdiction guide profiles (civil, criminal, traffic/other violation, and juvenile--see Appendix A for prototypes) were devised. A set for each state court in the country was filled in for the year 1981 by CSIM staff, based on available information, and then sent to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) in each state. A contact person (or persons) in each AOC,

knowledgeable about that state's statistics, was assigned to correct and complete the profiles. When the profiles were returned to the National Center for State Courts, CSIM staff matched the 1981 statistics for each state to the jurisdiction guide profiles. Lengthy telephone conversations were held with AOC staff to reconcile differences, clarify responses, and inquire further into the reporting practices of each state.

When the contact person and CSIM staff agree that the jurisdiction profiles were correct, each State Court Administrator was asked to provide the name of a court official in each court in his state to which the profile would be sent for a field check. The field checks were completed by about half the states.

The 1981 profiles asked if any jurisdictional changes had occurred that affected the data reported for 1982 and 1983. Telephone calls were used to obtain the same information regarding changes in 1984. The summary tables produced here are based on the information contained in 482 revised 1984 profiles for 206 state and local courts in 49 of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Courts were included whether or not they provide data to the AOC; only by including the entire state court system could it be determined where all case types were being handled and whether data reported for each case type were complete.

In the process of completing the first jurisdiction guide, the questions that CSIM staff asked changed as more was learned about the mechanics of individual court operations. Assumptions about generic terms like small claims had to be revised as it became apparent that the small claims process is not uniform, but varies from state to state, permitting jury trials and lawyers in some jurisdictions but excluding them in others. Some questions remain unanswered; AOC staff in some states had more time to devote to and more interest in this effort than others. New questions were added during the compilation process, such as how reopened cases are counted.

The jurisdiction profiles are working documents and will not be published. They will, however, be revised annually before data for each nation-wide annual report in the State Court Caseload Statistics series are collected. Court systems change and reporting systems are modified. Further probing will be needed in future guides to clarify anomalies such as the fact that many jurisdictions do not count support-custody cases as separate from marriage dissolution cases but consider them a step in the processing of a dissolution case. Thus the jurisdiction profiles will be a continually evolving resource. Comments and corrections from court officials in the field will be a welcome part of the revision process and should be directed to the CSIM Project, 300 Newport Avenue, Williamsburg, Virginia, 23185.

Significance of the jurisdiction guide

Probably the most significant accomplishment of the jurisdiction guide is the improvement in the integrity of the annual report database. Complete data are now much more clearly identified, and all of the information collected in the jurisdiction guide is available in the

database. This will permit identification of courts with comparable jurisdictions, from which data can be extracted and analyzed, not only by CSIM project staff, but by court officials and researchers through access to the data tapes available through the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48206.

The other major benefit is that the guide's contents make it possible for the annual report series to be brought up to date and kept current. Instead of waiting for each state to publish its annual report, which causes a two-year time lag in the production of the national Annual Report, CSIM staff can now classify raw data from the states according to the jurisdiction guide. This will permit the production of the nation-wide annual report within the year following the actual handling of the caseload by the states.

Learning process

The jurisdiction guide has collected an enormous amount of information about the state courts, all of which has been integrated into the annual report series database. A great deal more is known now about which jurisdictions and which data are comparable and which data are complete. CSIM staff have found the guide a demanding, but exciting learning task. Many AOC staff have also commented in the struggle to complete their jurisdiction profiles that they have been forced to examine issues and answer questions they had never before tackled. A number of the AOC contacts asked how their state compared with other states. The summary tables presented here should answer both that question and a related one expressed in phone conversations--"Doesn't everyone do it this way?"

Table 1. State trial court jurisdictions and record requirements, 1984

Comments: This table is the most general of all the tables derived from the trial court jurisdiction guide, in that it shows which courts in each state court system handle cases in the broad categories civil, criminal, traffic/other violations, and juvenile. These broad categories are used in the State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report series and were approved by the COSCA CSIS Committee.

Detailed tables for each of these broad categories are found in Table 2 (civil), Table 7 (criminal), Table 14 (traffic/other violations), and Table 16 (juvenile).

State/court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Verbatim tran- script required	Verbatim transcript not required	Case categories handled			
				Civil	Criminal	Traffic/ other violations	Juvenile
ALABAMA							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
District Court	L		X	X	X	X	X
Probate Court	L		X	X	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L		X	--	X	X	--
ALASKA							
Superior Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
District Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
ARIZONA							
Superior Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
Justices of the Peace Court	L		X (unless serious)	X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L		X (some may record)	--	X	X	--
ARKANSAS							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	--	--
Chancery and Probate Court	G	X		X	--	--	--
Court of Common Pleas	L	X		X	--	--	--
County Court	L		X	X	--	--	X
Municipal Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
City Court, Police Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
CALIFORNIA							
Superior Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
Justice Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
COLORADO							
District Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
Water Court	G	X		X	--	--	--
County Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	depends on municip.		--	--	X	--
CONNECTICUT							
Superior Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
Probate Court	L	only by agreement		X	--	--	--
DELAWARE							
Court of Chancery	G	X		X	--	--	--
Superior Court	G	X		X	X	--	--
Family Court	L	X		X	X	X	X
Court of Common Pleas	L	X		X	X	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L		X	--	X	X	--
Alderman's Court	L		X	X	X	X	--

X = Transcript requirements and jurisdiction of the court.
 -- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 1: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Verbatim tran- script required	Verbatim transcript not required	Case categories handled			
				Civil	Criminal	Traffic/ other violations	Juvenile
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA							
Superior Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
FLORIDA							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
County Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
GEORGIA							
Superior Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
Juvenile Court	L	X		--	--	X	X
State Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
Probate Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
Magistrate Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
Civil Court	L		X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court	L		X	X	X	--	--
Recorder's Court	L		X	--	X	X	--
HAWAII							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
District Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
IDAHO							
District Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
ILLINOIS							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
INDIANA							
Circuit Court and Superior Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
Probate Court	L	X		X	--	--	X
County Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	X		X	X	X	--
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L		X	X	X	--	--
City Court and Town Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
IOWA							
District Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
KANSAS							
District Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
Municipal Court	L		X	--	--	X	--
KENTUCKY							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	--	--
District Court	L		Recorded electronically	X	X	X	X
LOUISIANA							
District Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
City Court and Parish Court, and Municipal Court and Traffic Court of New Orleans	L	X		X	X	X	X
Family Court and Juvenile Court	L	X		X	--	--	X
Justice of the Peace Court	L		X	X	--	X	--
Mayor's Court	L		X	--	--	X	--

X = Transcript requirements and jurisdiction of the court.
 -- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 1: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Verbatim tran- script required	Verbatim transcript not required	Case categories handled			
				Civil	Criminal	Traffic/ other violations	Juvenile
MAINE							
Superior Court	G	X		X	X	X	--
District Court	L		X (but record may be taken)	X	X	X	X
Probate Court	L	Unknown		X	--	--	--
MARYLAND							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
District Court	L	X		X	X	X	X
Orphans' Court	L	X		X	--	--	--
MASSACHUSETTS							
Trial Court of the Commonwealth	G	X		X	X	X	X
MICHIGAN							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	--	--
Court of Claims	G	X		X	--	--	--
District Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
Probate Court	L	Unknown		X	--	X	X
MINNESOTA							
District Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
County Court, Probate Court, Conciliation Court, and County Municipal Court	L	X		X	X	X	X
MISSISSIPPI (No information available from State Court Administrator-- Source is State Court Organization, 1980)							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	--	--
Chancery Court	G	X		X	--	--	X
County Court	L	Unknown		X	X	X	--
Family Court	L	Unknown		X	X	--	X
Municipal Court	L	Unknown		--	X	X	X
Justice Court	L	Unknown		X	X	X	--
MISSOURI							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
MONTANA							
District Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
Justice of the Peace Court and Municipal Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
City Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
NEBRASKA							
District Court	G	X		X	X	--	--
Workmen's Compensation Court	L	X		X	--	--	--
Separate Juvenile Court	L	X		--	--	--	X
County Court	L	X		X	X	X	X
Municipal Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
NEVADA							
District Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
Justice Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L		X	X	X	X	--

X = Transcript requirements and jurisdiction of the court.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 1: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Verbatim tran- script required	Verbatim transcript not required	Case categories handled			
				Civil	Criminal	Traffic/ other violations	Juvenile
NEW HAMPSHIRE							
Superior Court	G	X		X	X	--	--
District Court	L		X	X	X	X	X
Probate Court	L	Recorded electronically		X	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
NEW JERSEY							
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	G	X		X	X	--	X
Superior Court Law Division, Special Civil Part	L	X		X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	X		--	X	X	--
Surrogate's Court	L	X		X	--	--	--
NEW MEXICO							
District Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
Magistrate Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
Probate Court	L		X	X	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	X		--	--	X	--
NEW YORK							
Supreme Court	G	X		X	X	--	--
County Court	G	X		X	X	--	--
Civil Court of the City of New York	L	X		X	--	--	--
Criminal Court of the City of New York	L	X		--	X	X	--
Family Court	L	X		X	--	--	X
District Court and City Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
Surrogates' Court	L	X		X	--	--	--
Court of Claims	L	X		X	--	--	--
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
NORTH CAROLINA							
Superior Court	G	X		X	X	--	--
District Court	L	X		X	X	X	X
NORTH DAKOTA							
District Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
County Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L		X	--	X	X	--
OHIO							
Court of Common Pleas	G	X		X	X	--	X
County Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
Court of Claims	L	X		X	--	--	--
Mayor's Court	L		X	--	X	X	--
OKLAHOMA							
District Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
Court of Tax Review	L	X		X	--	--	--
Municipal Criminal Court of Record and Municipal Court Not of Record	L	X	X	--	--	X	--

X = Transcript requirements and jurisdiction of the court.
 -- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 1: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited/ juris- dic- tion	Verbatim tran- script required	Verbatim transcript not required	Case categories handled			
				Civil	Criminal	Traffic/ other violations	Juvenile
OREGON							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
Tax Court	G	X		X	--	--	--
District Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
County Court	L		X	X	--	--	X
Justice Court	L	Unknown		X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	Unknown		--	X	X	--
PENNSYLVANIA							
Court of Common Pleas	G	X		X	X	--	X
District Justice Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
Philadelphia Traffic Court	L		X	--	--	X	--
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
PUERTO RICO							
Superior Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
District Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
Municipal Judges	L		X	--	--	X	--
RHODE ISLAND							
Superior Court	G	X		X	X	--	--
District Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
Family Court	L	X		X	--	--	X
Probate Court	L	Unknown		X	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L		X	--	--	X	--
SOUTH CAROLINA							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	--	--
Family Court	L	X		X	--	X	X
Magistrate Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
Probate Court	L	X		X	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L		X	--	X	X	--
SOUTH DAKOTA							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
TENNESSEE							
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	G	X		X	X	X	--
Law and Equity Court	G	X		X	--	--	--
Chancery Court	G	X		X	--	--	--
General Sessions Court	L		X	X	X	X	X
Probate Court	L	X		X	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L		X	--	X	X	--
Juvenile Court	L	X		X	--	--	X
TEXAS							
District Court and Criminal District Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court, and Probate Court	L	X		X	X	X	X
Municipal Court	L		X (8 excep- tions)	--	X	X	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L		X	X	X	X	--

X = Transcript requirements and jurisdiction of the court.
 -- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 1: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Verbatim tran- script required	Verbatim transcript not required	Case categories handled			
				Civil	Criminal	Traffic/ other violations	Juvenile
UTAH							
District Court	G	X		X	X	--	--
Circuit Court	L	X		X	X	X	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
Juvenile Court	L	X		--	--	X	X
VERMONT							
Superior Court	G	X		X	--	--	--
District Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
Probate Court	L		X	X	--	--	--
VIRGINIA							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	X	--
District Court	L		X	X	X	X	X
WASHINGTON							
Superior Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
District Court	L	Electronically		X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L		X	--	X	X	--
WEST VIRGINIA							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
Magistrate Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L		X	--	X	X	--
WISCONSIN							
Circuit Court	G	X		X	X	X	X
Municipal Court	L	Electronically		--	X	X	--
WYOMING							
District Court	G	X		X	X	--	X
County Court	L	Electronically		X	X	X	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L		X	X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L		X	--	X	X	--

X = Transcript requirements and jurisdiction of the court.
 -- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 2. Civil case type jurisdiction by state trial courts, 1984

Comments: The civil case type classifications used in this table are those used in the State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report series. They have been chosen as a model set of data elements for caseload inventory by the COSCA Court Statistics and Information Systems Committee and are defined in State Court Model Statistical Dictionary and Supplement.

In the trial court jurisdiction guide, CSIM staff have ascertained from AOC staff in each state exactly what case types are handled in each court and how they should be classified into the CSIM caseload inventory.

State/court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Tort	Con- tract	Real prop- erty rights	Small claims	Domes- tic rela- tions	Mental health	Estate	Adminis- trative agency appeal	Trial court appeal	Miscel- laneous
ALABAMA											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	X	X	--
District Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
Probate Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	--	--	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--
ALASKA											
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
District Court	L	X	X	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
ARIZONA											
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
Justices of the Peace Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
ARKANSAS											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	X	X	--
Chancery Court and Probate Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	--	--	--
Court of Common Pleas	L	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	--	X	--	X	--	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	(X)	(X)	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
City Court, Police Court	L	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CALIFORNIA											
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
Justice Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	X
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	X
COLORADO											
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	--
Water Court	G	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	X	--
CONNECTICUT											
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	--	X	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	X	X	X	--	--	X
DELAWARE											
Court of Chancery	G	X	X	X	--	--	X	X	--	--	--
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	--	X	--	X	X	X
Family Court	L	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Court of Common Pleas	L	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	X
Alderman's Court	L	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--

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Table 2: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Tort	Con- tract	Real prop- erty rights	Small claims	Domes- tic rela- tions	Mental health	Estate	Adminis- trative agency appeal	Trial court appeal	Miscel- laneous
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA											
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	--	X
FLORIDA											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
County Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	X
GEORGIA											
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	X	X	X
State Court	L	X	X	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	X
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--
Magistrate Court	L	(X)	(X)	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
Civil Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
HAWAII											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
District Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	X
IDAHO											
District Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
ILLINOIS											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	--	X
INDIANA											
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	X	--	X	--	--	X
County Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	--	X
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	X	X	X	--	--	X	--	--	X	X
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
City Court and Town Court	L	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
IOWA											
District Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	--	X	--
KANSAS											
District Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
KENTUCKY											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
District Court	L	X	X	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	--
LOUISIANA											
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	--	X	X
City Court and Parish Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
Family Court and Juvenile Court	L	--	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
MAINE											
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	X	X	X
District Court	L	X	X	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--
Probate Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	--	--	--	--	X	--	X	--	--	--

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Table 2: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Tort	Con- tract	Real prop- erty rights	Small claims	Domes- tic rela- tions	Mental health	Estate	Adminis- trative agency appeal	Trial court appeal	Miscel- laneous
MARYLAND											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
District Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	X
Orphans' Court	L	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--
(does not report data to AOC)											
MASSACHUSETTS											
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Superior Court Dept.	G	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	X	X	--
Housing Court Dept.	L	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
District Court Dept.	L	X	X	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	X
Boston Municipal Court Dept.	L	X	X	X	X	X	X	--	--	X	X
Land Court Dept.	L	--	--	X	--	X	--	X	--	--	X
Probate and Family Ct. Dept.	L	--	--	--	--	X	--	X	--	--	X
MICHIGAN											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	X	X	X
Court of Claims	G	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	--	--
District Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	X	X	X	--	--	X
MINNESOTA											
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
County Court, Probate Court, Conciliation Court, County Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	--	X	--
MISSISSIPPI -- No data available											
MISSOURI											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MONTANA											
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
Justice of the Peace Court and Municipal Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
City Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
NEBRASKA											
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	--	X	X	X
Workmen's Compensation Court	L	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	--	--
County Court	L	X	X	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
NEVADA											
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
Justice Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
NEW HAMPSHIRE											
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	X	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	X	X	X	--	--	X
Municipal Court	L	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--

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Table 2: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Tort	Con- tract	Real prop- erty rights	Small claims	Domes- tic rela- tions	Mental health	Estate	Adminis- trative agency appeal	Trial court appeal	Miscel- laneous
NEW JERSEY											
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	--	--	X
Law Division, Special Civil Part	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
Surrogate's Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	--	--	--	--	?	--	X	--	--	--
NEW MEXICO											
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
Magistrate Court	L	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	L	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Probate Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--
NEW YORK											
											(Handled in lower criminal courts)
Supreme Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	--	--	X
County Court	G	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	X	X
Civil Court of the City of New York	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	X
Family Court	L	--	--	--	--	X	X(juv)	X	--	--	--
District Court and City Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
Surrogates' Court	L	--	--	--	--	X	--	X	--	--	--
Court of Claims	L	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Town Court and Village Justice Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
NORTH CAROLINA											
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	--	X
District Court	L	X	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	X	--
NORTH DAKOTA											
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	X	X	X	X
County Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	X	X	--	--	--
OHIO											
Court of Common Pleas	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	--	X
County Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	X
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	X
Court of Claims	L	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	--	X
OKLAHOMA											
District Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	--	X
Court of Tax Review	L	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	--	--
OREGON											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	--
Tax Court	G	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	--	--
District Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	X	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	--	--	--	X	X	X	--	--	--
Justice Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
PENNSYLVANIA											
Court of Common Pleas	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
District Justice Court	L	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	(X)	(X)	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	X
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

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Table 2: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Tort	Con- tract	Real prop- erty rights	Small claims	Domes- tic rela- tions	Mental health	Estate	Adminis- trative agency appeal	Trial court appeal	Miscel- laneous
PUERTO RICO											
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	X	X	X	X
District Court	L	X	X	X	---	X	--	--	X	--	X
RHODE ISLAND											
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	-	--	--	--	X	X	X
District Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	X	--	X	--	--
Family Court	L	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--
Probate Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--
SOUTH CAROLINA											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	X	X	--
Family Court	L	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--
Magistrate Court	L	X	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--
SOUTH DAKOTA											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TENNESSEE											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
Law and Equity Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
Chancery Court	G	--	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
General Sessions Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	--	--
Probate Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--
Juvenile Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	--	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--
TEXAS											
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	X	X	--	X
County Court at Law, Consti- tutional County Court, and Probate Court	L	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	--	X	X
Justice of the Peace Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	--	--
UTAH											
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
Circuit Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	X	X	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
VERMONT											
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	X	X	--
District Court	G	X	X	--	X	X	X	--	--	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	X	X	X	--	--	X
VIRGINIA											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	--
District Court	L	X	X	X	--	X	X	--	X	--	--
WASHINGTON											
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X
District Court	L	X	X	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--
WEST VIRGINIA											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	--
Magistrate Court	L	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

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Table 2: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Tort	Con- tract	Real prop- erty rights	Small claims	Domes- tic rela- tions	Mental health	Estate	Adminis- trative agency appeal	Trial court appeal	Miscel- laneous
WISCONSIN											
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
WYOMING											
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	--
County Court	L	X	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--

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Table 3. Dollar range for original civil filings in state trial courts, 1984

Comments: This table indicates a wide variation in dollar amounts in civil cases, which affects the comparability of caseloads among individual courts.

The jurisdiction guide has pointed up the difficulty of classifying civil cases in which damages are sought. Most states have one court in which there is no maximum dollar amount that can be sought, one or more courts in which the dollar amount is limited, and one or more courts that hear small claims cases. This table has been constructed to illustrate these three different situations.

The jurisdiction guide has also revealed that there is no uniformity in what states are calling small claims cases. Three state and Puerto Rico have no small claims procedure. Some states permit jury trials in small claims; some do not permit lawyers; informal summary procedures predominate but are not universal--as indicated in the table.

Name of court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Unlimited dollar amount		Limited dollar amount		Small claims			Lawyers per- mitted
		Torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum		Torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum		Maximum dollar	Jury trials	Summary procedures	
ALABAMA									
Circuit Court	G	\$ 500/No maximum							
District Court	L			\$ 500/ \$5,000		\$ 500	No	Yes	Optional
ALASKA									
Superior Court	G	0 /No maximum							
District Court	L			0 /\$10,000 \$15,000 auto tort		\$2,000	No	Yes	No
ARIZONA									
Superior Court	G	\$ 500/No maximum							
Justices of the Peace Court	L			0 /\$ 2,500		\$ 500	No	Yes	?
ARKANSAS									
Circuit Court	G	\$ 100/No maximum							
Court of Common Pleas	L			\$ 500/\$ 1,000 (contract only)					
Municipal Court	L					\$ 300	No	Yes	No
City Court, Police Court	L			0 /\$ 300 (contract and real property)					
CALIFORNIA									
Superior Court	G	\$15,000/No maximum							
Justice Court	L			0 /\$15,000		\$1,500	No	Yes	No
Municipal Court	L			0 /\$15,000		\$1,500	No	Yes	No
COLORADO									
District Court	G	0 /No maximum							
Water Court	G	0 /No maximum (only real property)							
County Court	L			0 /\$ 5,000		\$1,000	No	Yes	No

Table 3: (continued)

Name of court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Unlimited dollar amount		Limited dollar amount		Small claims			Lawyers per- mitted
		Torts, contracts, real property		Torts, contracts, real property		Maximum dollar	Jury trials	Summary procedures	
		Minimum/maximum		Minimum/maximum					
CONNECTICUT									
Superior Court	G	0 /No maximum				\$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
DELAWARE									
Court of Chancery	G	0 /No maximum							
Superior Court	G	0 /No maximum							
Court of Common Pleas	L			\$ 1,500/\$15,000					
Justice of the Peace Court	L			0 /\$ 1,500					
Alderman's Court	L					\$1,500	No	Yes	Yes
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA									
Superior Court	G	before Nov. 1, 1984: \$750* / No maximum (*except for torts, where jurisdiction below \$750 is concurrent with small claims) after Nov. 1, 1984: \$2,000/no maximum				\$ 750	Yes	Yes	Yes
						\$2,000			
FLORIDA									
Circuit Court	G	\$ 5,000/ No maximum							
County Court	L			\$ 1,500/ \$5,000		\$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
GEORGIA									
Superior Court	G	0 /No maximum							
State Court	L	0 /Varies (no real property)				Varies	No	Yes	?
Civil Court	L			0 /\$3,000-25,000		?	No	Yes	?
Magistrate Court	L					\$2,500	Yes	Yes	?
Municipal Court	L			0 /\$1,500-7,500		\$1,500-7,500	Yes	Yes	?
HAWAII									
Circuit Court	G	\$ 1,000/No maximum							
District Court	L			0 /\$10,000		\$2,500	No	Yes	?
IDAHO									
District Court	G	0 /No maximum							
Magistrates Division	G			0 /\$10,000		\$2,000	No	Yes	No
ILLINOIS									
Circuit Court	G	0 / No maximum				\$2,500	Yes	Yes	Yes

INDIANA									
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	0 /No maximum		\$1,500	No	Yes	Yes		
County Court	L		0 /\$ 5,000	\$3,000	No	Yes	Yes		
Municipal Court of Marion County	L		0 /\$15,000	(July 1, 1984)					
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L			\$3,000	No	Yes	Yes		
City Court and Town Court	L		0 /\$500-2,500 (no real property)						
IOWA									
District Court	G	0 /No maximum		\$2,000	No	Yes	Yes		
KANSAS									
District Court	G	0 /No maximum		\$ 500	No	Yes	No		
KENTUCKY									
Circuit Court	G	\$ 2,500/No maximum							
District Court	L		0 /\$ 2,500	\$1,000	No	Yes	Yes		
LOUISIANA									
District Court	G	0 /No maximum							
City Court and Parish Court	L		0 /\$5,000	\$1,500	No	Yes	Yes		
Justice of the Peace Court	L			\$1,200	No	Yes	?		
MAINE									
Superior Court	G	0 /No maximum							
District Court	L		0 /\$30,000	\$1,400	No	Yes	Yes		
MARYLAND									
Circuit Court	G	\$ 2,500/No maximum							
District Court	L		0 /\$10,000	\$1,000	No	Yes	?		
MASSACHUSETTS									
Trial Court of the Commonwealth	G								
Superior Court Department	G	\$ 7,500 /No maximum							
Housing Court Department	L		0/\$7,500 (only real property)	\$1,200	No	Yes	Yes		
District Court Department	L		0 /\$ 7,500	\$1,200	No	Yes	Yes		
Boston Municipal Court Dept.	L		0 /\$ 7,500	\$1,200	No	Yes	Yes		
MICHIGAN									
Circuit Court	G	\$10,000/No maximum							
District Court	L		0 /\$10,000	\$ 600	No	Yes	?		
Municipal Court	L		0 /\$ 1,500	\$1,500	No	Yes	?		

Table 3: (continued)

Name of court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Unlimited dollar amount Torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount Torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			Lawyers per- mitted
				Maximum dollar	Jury trials	Summary procedures	
MINNESOTA							
District Court	G	0 /No maximum					
County Court	L		\$ 1,000/\$15,000	\$1,250	No	Yes	?
County Municipal Court	L		\$ 1,000/\$15,000	\$1,250	No	Yes	
Conciliation Court	L			\$1,250	No	Yes	
				(except land titles)			
MISSISSIPPI -- No data available							
MISSOURI							
Circuit Court	G	0 /No maximum					
Associates Division			0 /\$ 5,000	\$1,000	No	Yes	No
MONTANA							
District Court	G	\$ 50 /No maximum					
Justice of the Peace Court	L		0 /\$ 3,000	\$3,000	No	Yes	No
City Court and Municipal Court	L		0 /\$ 300	\$ 300	No	Yes	No
NEBRASKA							
District Court	G	0 /No maximum					
County Court	L		0 /\$10,000	\$1,000	No	Yes	?
Municipal Court	L		0 /\$10,000	\$1,000	No	Yes	?
NEVADA							
District Court	G	\$ 1,000 /No maximum					
Justice Court	L		0 /\$ 1,250	\$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court	L		0 /\$ 1,250	\$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
NEW HAMPSHIRE							
Superior Court	G	\$ 500/No maximum					
District Court	L		0 /\$ 5,000	\$ 500	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court	L			\$ 500	No	Yes	Yes
				(only landlord-tenant, small claims)			
NEW JERSEY							
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	G	0 /No maximum					
Superior Court Law Division, Special Civil Part	L		0 /\$ 5,000	\$1,000	No	Yes	Yes

NEW MEXICO

District Court	G	0 /No maximum						
Magistrate Court	L		0 /\$ 2,000					
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	L		0 /\$ 5,000					

NEW YORK

Supreme Court	G	\$ 6,000- \$25,000/No maximum	0 /\$ 6,000-25,000					
County Court	G							
Civil Court of the City of New York	L		0 /\$25,000	\$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes	
District Court and City Court	L		0 /\$ 2,000-6,000	\$1,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Court of Claims	L	0 /No maximum						
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L		0 /\$ 3,000	\$1,000	No	Yes	Yes	

NORTH CAROLINA

Superior Court	G	\$ 5,000/No maximum						
District Court	L		0 /\$ 5,000	\$1,000	No	Yes	Yes	

NORTH DAKOTA

District Court	G	\$ 1,000/No maximum						
County Court	L		0 /\$10,000	\$1,500	No	Yes	?	

OHIO

Court of Common Pleas	G	\$ 500/No maximum						
County Court	L		0 /\$ 3,000	\$1,000	No	Yes	?	
Municipal Court	L		0 /\$10,000	\$1,000	No	Yes	?	

OKLAHOMA

District Court	G	0 /No maximum		\$1,500	Yes	Yes	?	
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OREGON

Circuit Court	G	\$ 3,000/No maximum						
District Court	L		0 /\$ 3,000	\$1,000	No	Yes	No	
Justice Court	L		0 /\$ 2,500	\$1,000	No	Yes	No	

PENNSYLVANIA

Court of Common Pleas	G	0 /No maximum						
District Justice Court	L		0 /\$ 4,000					
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L			\$ 1,000	No	Yes	Yes	
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L		0 /No maximum (only real property)					

Table 3: (continued)

Name of court	General/ limited juris- dic- tion	Unlimited dollar amount		Limited dollar amount		Small claims			Lawyers per- mitted
		Torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum		Torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum		Maximum dollar	Jury trials	Summary procedures	
PUERTO RICO									
Superior Court	G	\$10,000/No maximum							
District Court	L			0 /\$10,000					
RHODE ISLAND									
Superior Court	G	\$ 5,000/No maximum							
District Court	G			\$ 1,000/\$ 5,000-10,000		\$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
SOUTH CAROLINA									
Circuit Court	G	0 /No maximum							
Magistrate Court	L			0 /\$ 1,000 (no max in landlord-tenant)		\$1,000	Yes	Yes	Yes
SOUTH DAKOTA									
Circuit Court	G	0 /No maximum				\$2,000	No	Yes	Yes
TENNESSEE									
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	G	\$ 50/No maximum							
Law and Equity Court	G	\$ 50/No maximum							
Chancery Court	G	\$ 50/No maximum (no torts)							
General Sessions Court	L			0 /\$ 5,000-\$10,000		\$5,000	No	Yes	?
TEXAS									
District Court	G	\$ 500/No maximum							
County Court at Law, Consti- tutional County Court, and Probate Court	L			\$ 200/\$ 1,000-5,000		\$ 150- 200	Yes	Yes	Yes
Justice of the Peace Court	L			0 /\$1,000 no max in real property		\$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
UTAH									
District Court	G	0 /No maximum							
Circuit Court	L			0 /\$10,000		\$ 600	No	Yes	Yes
Justice Court	L			0 /\$ 750		\$ 600	No	Yes	Yes
VERMONT									
Superior Court	G	\$ 200/No maximum							
District Court	G			0 /\$ 5,000		\$2,000	Yes	Yes	Yes

VIRGINIA									
Circuit Court	G	\$ 1,000/No maximum							
District Court	L	0 /No maximum in condemnation	0 /\$ 7,000						
WASHINGTON									
Superior Court	G	0 /No maximum							
District Court	L		0 /\$ 7,500	\$ 500	No	Yes	Yes		
WEST VIRGINIA									
Circuit Court	G	\$ 300/No maximum							
Magistrate Court	L		0 /\$ 2,000						
WISCONSIN									
Circuit Court	G	0 /No maximum		\$1,000	Yes	No	Yes		
WYOMING									
District Court	G	\$ 4,000/No maximum							
County Court and Justice of the Peace Court	L		0 /\$7,000	\$ 750	No	Yes	Yes		

Table 4. Point at which filing and disposition are counted in civil cases for statistical reporting purposes; counting of reopened/reinstated cases, 1984

Comments: If courts are counting the filing and disposition of cases at different points, then time to disposition data and status of cases data are not comparable. In caseload inventory, states that do not count a civil case until note of issue will have a lower case count per capita than will states that begin counting civil cases at a much earlier point.

Caseloads can also vary according to whether reopened/reinstated cases are counted as new filings. Answers to this question indicate that those courts that do count reopened filings as new cases are not including all the same categories in their count. This question will have to be explored in much further detail in future jurisdiction guide revisions to determine when and if cases are put on an inactive list, when cases are purged, and which cases are recounted if they are reopened.

This table indicates that most civil case filings are counted at the filing of the petition (or complaint), with a very few exceptions. There is much less unanimity in the dispositions (for statistical reporting purposes) point, with many courts counting a trial disposition at the time judgment is pronounced, but many others waiting until posttrial activity is completed and the judgment is formally entered.

State/court	Point at which filing counted		Reopened cases counted as new filings	Point at which disposition counted	
	At filing of petition of complaint	Other		At adjudication	At entry of judgment
ALABAMA					
Circuit Court	X		Yes	X	
District Court	X			X	
Probate Court	X			Unknown	
ALASKA					
			?		
Superior Court	X			X	
District Court	X			X	
ARIZONA					
			Included in "transfer in"		
Superior Court	X				X
Justices of the Peace Court	X			X	
ARKANSAS					
			Yes (not outstanding warrants)		
Circuit Court	X			X	
Chancery Court	X				X
Court of Common Pleas	X				X
County Court	X			X	
Municipal Court	X			X	
City Court, Police Court	X			X	
CALIFORNIA					
			?		
Superior Court	X			X	
Justice Court	X			X	
Municipal Court	X			X	
COLORADO					
District Court	X				X
Water Court	X				X
County Court	X				X
CONNECTICUT					
			Yes (some)		
Superior Court	X			X	
Probate Court	X			X	
DELAWARE					
			No (except for new trials)		
Court of Chancery	X				X
Superior Court	X				X
Family Court	X				X
Justice of the Peace Court	X				X
Court of Common Pleas	X				X
Alderman's Court	X				X

Table 4: (continued)

State/court	Point at which filing counted		Reopened cases counted as new filings	Point at which disposition counted	
	At filing of petition of complaint	Other		At adjudication	At entry of judgment
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior Court		At issue	No	X	
FLORIDA			Reported separately		
Circuit Court	X			X	
County Court	X			X	
GEORGIA			?		
Superior Court	X				X
State Court	X				X
Probate Court	X				X
Magistrate Court	Unknown			Unknown	
Municipal Court	Unknown				X
Civil Court	Unknown				X
HAWAII			"Reopened prior case" reported		
Circuit Court	X				X
District Court	X				X
IDAHO			Yes		
District Court	X				X
ILLINOIS			If new case number is assigned		
Circuit Court	X				X
INDIANA			"Redocketed cases" are reported		
Superior Court and Circuit Court	X			X	
Probate Court	X				X
County Court	X				X
Municipal Court of Marion County	X			X	
Small Claims Court of Marion County	X				X
City Court and Town Court	X				X
IOWA			Yes		
District Court	X			X (jury trial)	X (bench trial)
KANSAS			Yes		
District Court	X			X	
KENTUCKY			?		
Circuit Court	X				X
District Court	X				X
LOUISIANA			?		
District Court	X			X	
City Court and Parish Court	X			X	
Family Court and Juvenile Court	X			X	
Justice of the Peace Court	X				
MAINE			Some		
Superior Court	X				X
District Court	X				X
Probate Court	X			Unknown	
MARYLAND			Yes		
Circuit Court	X				X
District Court	X				X
Orphans' Court	X			Unknown	

Table 4: (continued)

State/court	Point at which filing counted		Reopened cases counted as new filings ?	Point at which disposition counted	
	At filing of petition of complaint	Other		At adjudication	At entry of judgment
NEW YORK					
Supreme Court		At issue		X	
County Court		At issue		X	
Civil Court of the City of New York	X			X	
Family Court	X			X	
District Court and City Court	X			X	
Surrogates' Court	X			X	
Court of Claims	X			X	
Town Court and Village Justice Court	X			X	
NORTH CAROLINA					
			No		
Superior Court	X			X	
District Court	X			X	
NORTH DAKOTA					
			?		
District Court	X				X
County Court	X				X
OHIO					
			Yes		
Court of Common Pleas	X				X
County Court	X				X
Municipal Court	X				X
Court of Claims	X				X
Mayor's Court	X			Unknown	
OKLAHOMA					
			?		
District Court	X			X	
Court of Tax Review	X			X	
OREGON					
			Yes		
Circuit Court	X			X	
Tax Court	X			X	
District Court	X			X	
County Court	X			X	
Justice Court	X			X	
Municipal Court	X			X	
PENNSYLVANIA					
			"Reinstated cases" reported separately		
Court of Common Pleas	X			X	
District Justice Court	X			X	
Philadelphia Municipal Court	X			X	
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	X			X	
PUERTO RICO					
			?		
Superior Court	X			X	
District Court	X			X	
RHODE ISLAND					
			Some		
Superior Court	X				X
District Court	X				X
Family Court	X				X
Probate Court	X			Unknown	
SOUTH CAROLINA					
			Generally		
Circuit Court	X				X
Family Court	X				X
Magistrate Court	X				X
Probate Court	X				X
SOUTH DAKOTA					
			?		
Circuit Court	X				X

Table 4: (continued)

State/court	Point at which filing counted		Reopened cases counted as new filings	Point at which disposition counted	
	At filing of petition of complaint	Other		At adjudication	At entry of judgment
MASSACHUSETTS			Yes		
Trial Court of the Commonwealth	X			X	
MICHIGAN			No		
Circuit Court	X				X
Court of Claims	X			Unknown	
District Court	X				X
Municipal Court	X				X
Probate Court	X				X
MINNESOTA			?		
District Court	X				X
County Court, Probate Court, County Municipal Court, Conciliation Court	X				X
MISSISSIPPI	-- no data available				
MISSOURI			?		
Circuit Court	X				X
MONTANA			Yes		
District Court	X				X
Justice of the Peace Court	X				X
City Court	X				X
NEBRASKA			No		
District Court	X			X	
Workmen's Compensation Court	X			X	
County Court	X			X	
Municipal Court	X			X	
NEVADA			No		
District Court	X			X	
Justice Court	X			X	
Municipal Court	X			X	
NEW HAMPSHIRE			?		
Superior Court	X				X
District Court	X				X
Probate Court	X				X
Municipal Court	X				X
NEW JERSEY			?		
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)		At issue			X
Superior Court, Law Division, Special Civil Part	X				X
Surrogate's Court	X				X
NEW MEXICO			"Reopened cases" reported separately		
District Court	X				X
Magistrate Court	X				X
Probate Court	Unknown			Unknown	
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	X				X

Table 4: (continued)

State/court	Point at which filing counted		Reopened cases counted as new filings ?	Point at which disposition counted	
	At filing of petition of complaint	Other		At adjudication	At entry of judgment
TENNESSEE					
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	X				Not consistent statewide
Law and Equity Court	X				Not consistent statewide
Chancery Court	X				Not consistent statewide
General Sessions Court	X				Not consistent statewide
Probate Court	X				X
County Court	X				Unknown
Juvenile Court	Unknown				Unknown
TEXAS					
			"Other cases added" reported separately		
District Court	X				X
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court, and Probate Court	X				X
Justice of the Peace Court	X				X
UTAH					
			?		
District Court	X				X
Circuit Court	X				X
Justice Court	X				X
VERMONT					
			?		
Superior Court	X				X
District Court	X				X
Probate Court	X				X
VIRGINIA					
			Reported separately		
Circuit Court	X				X
District Court	X				X
WASHINGTON					
			Not generally		
Superior Court	X			X	
District Court	X				X
WEST VIRGINIA					
			Some civil		
Circuit Court	X				X
Magistrate Court	X			X	
WISCONSIN					
			Yes		
Circuit Court	X				X
WYOMING					
			Yes		
District Court	X			X	
County Court	X			X	
Justice of the Peace Court	X			X	

Table 5. Civil case tyse in which jury trials and bench trials are used in state trial courts, 1984

Comments: The information contained in this table permits the identification of each case type where a jury trial and/or bench trial is used, as well as the case types over which each court does not have jurisdiction. This permits the identification of courts from which trial data could be reported and the kind of trial data to expect.

State/court	General/ limited juris- diction	Tort	Contract	Real property rights	Small claims	Domestic relations	Mental health	Estate	Adminis- trative agency appeal	Trial court appeal
ALABAMA										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	X	X
District Court	L	O	O	O	O	--	--	--	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	--	O	O	--	--
ALASKA										
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	O	O	O
District Court	L	X	X	--	O	--	--	--	--	--
ARIZONA										
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
Justices of the Peace Court	L	X	X	X	O	--	--	--	--	--
ARKANSAS										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	X	X
Chancery and Probate Court	G	O	O	O	--	O	O	O	--	--
Court of Common Pleas	L	--	O	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	--	O	--	O	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	(O)	(O)	O	--	--	--	--	--
City Court, Police Court	L	--	O	O	--	--	--	--	--	--
CALIFORNIA										
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
Justice Court	L	X	X	X	O	--	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	O	--	--	--	--	--
COLORADO										
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	O	O
Water Court	G	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	X	X	X	O	--	--	--	--	O
CONNECTICUT										
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	O	O	O	--	O	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	O	O	O	--	--
DELAWARE										
Court of Chancery	G	O	O	O	--	--	O	O	--	--
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	--	X	--	O	O
Family Court	L	--	--	--	--	O	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	O	O	X (rare)	--	--	--	--	--	--
Court of Common Pleas	L	O	O	O	--	--	--	--	--	--
Alderman's Court	L	--	--	--	O	--	--	--	--	--
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA										
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	X	O	X	X	O	--

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held in this case type.

O = Only bench trials are held in this case type.

X/O = Jury trials are used in some subcategories, but not in others.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

() = Small claims cases do not include one of the usual three case types: torts, contracts, and real property rights. Unless otherwise indicated, it is assumed that small claims cases may be any of the three.

Table 5: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- diction	Tort	Contract	Real property rights	Small claims	Domestic relations	Mental health	Estate	Adminis- trative agency appeal	Trial court appeal
FLORIDA										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	O	O
County Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	---	--	--	--
GEORGIA										
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	X	X
State Court	L	X	X	--	X	--	--	--	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	--	O	O	--	--
Magistrate Court	L	(O)	(O)	--	O	--	--	--	--	--
Civil Court	L	X	X	--	O	--	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	X	X	--	O	--	--	--	--	--
HAWAII										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
District Court	L	O	O	O	O	--	--	--	--	--
IDAHO										
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
ILLINOIS										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X	X/O	X	O	O	--
INDIANA										
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	O	X	X	X	X	X
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	X	--	X	--	--
County Court	L	X	X	X	O	--	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	X	X	X	--	--	X	--	--	X
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L	--	--	--	O	--	--	--	--	--
City Court and Town Court	L	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
IOWA										
District Court	G	X	X	X	O	X	O	X	--	O
KANSAS										
District Court	G	X	X	X	O	X	X	X	X	X
KENTUCKY										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	O	O
District Court	L	X	X	X	O	X	--	O	--	--
LOUISIANA										
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	O	O	O	O	O
City Court and Parish Court	L	O	O	O	O	--	--	--	--	--
Family Court and Juvenile Court	L	--	--	--	--	O	O	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	--	--	O	--	--	--	--	--
MAINE										
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	---	O	O
District Court	L	O	O	O	O	O	O	--	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	O	--	O	--	--
MARYLAND										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X/O	O	X	X	X
District Court	L	O	O	O	O	--	--	--	--	--
Orphans' Court	L	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	--	--

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held in this case type.

O = Only bench trials are held in this case type.

X/O = Jury trials are used in some subcategories, but not in others.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

() = Small claims cases do not include one of the usual three case types: torts, contracts, and real property rights. Unless otherwise indicated, it is assumed that small claims cases may be any of the three.

Table 5: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- diction	Tort	Contract	Real property rights	Small claims	Domestic relations	Mental health	Estate	Adminis- trative agency appeal	Trial court appeal
MASSACHUSETTS										
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:										
Superior Court										
Department	G	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	X	X
Housing Court										
Department	G	--	--	X	0	--	--	--	--	--
District Court										
Department	G	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	0	0
Boston Municipal										
Court Department	G	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	0
Land Court										
Department	G	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
Probate and Family										
Court Department	G	--	--	--	--	0	--	X	--	--
MICHIGAN										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	X	X
Court of Claims	G	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	??	--
District Court	L	X	X	X	0	--	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	0	--	--	--	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
MINNESOTA										
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	0	0
County Court, Probate										
Court County Municipal										
Court, Conciliation										
Court	L	X	X	X	0	X	X	X	--	X
MISSISSIPPI -- no data available										
MISSOURI										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	0	0	0	X	X	X
MONTANA										
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
Justice of the Peace										
Court and Municipal										
Court	L	X	X	X	0	--	--	--	--	--
City Court	L	X	X	X	0	--	--	--	--	--
NEBRASKA										
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	--	0	0
Workmen's Compensation										
Court	L	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	--
County Court	L	X	X	X	0	X	--	X	--	--
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	0	--	--	--	--	--
NEVADA										
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X/O	X	X	X	X
Justice Court	L	X	X	X	0	--	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
NEW HAMPSHIRE										
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	--	0	0	--	--	--	--	--

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held in this case type.

0 = Only bench trials are held in this case type.

X/O = Jury trials are used in some subcategories, but not in others.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

() = Small claims cases do not include one of the usual three case types: torts, contracts, and real property rights. Unless otherwise indicated, it is assumed that small claims cases may be any of the three.

Table 5: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- diction	Tort	Contract	Real property rights	Small claims	Domestic relations	Mental health	Estate	Adminis- trative agency appeal	Trial court appeal
NEW JERSEY										
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	G	X	X	X	--	0	0	0	--	--
Superior Court Law Division, Special Civil Part	G	X	X	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
Surrogate's Court	L	--	--	--	--	?	--	0	--	--
NEW MEXICO										
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
Magistrate Court	L	0	0	0	--	--	--	--	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	--	--
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	L	0	0	0	--	--	--	--	--	--
NEW YORK										
Supreme Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	--	--
County Court	G	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	0
Civil Court of the City of New York	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--
Family Court	L	--	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
District Court and City Court	L	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	--
Surrogates' Court	L	--	--	--	--	0	--	X	--	--
Court of Claims	L	0	0	0	--	--	--	--	--	--
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L	X	X	X	0	--	--	--	--	--
NORTH CAROLINA										
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	--
District Court	L	X	X	X	0	X	--	--	--	X
NORTH DAKOTA										
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	X	X	X
County Court	L	X	X	X	0	--	X	0	--	--
OHIO										
Court of Common Pleas	G	X	X	X	--	X/O	X	X	0	--
County Court	L	X	X	X	0	--	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	0	--	--	--	--	--
Court of Claims	L	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	--
OKLAHOMA										
District Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	--
Court of Tax Review	L	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	--
OREGON										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	0	0	0	X	X
Tax Court	G	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	--
District Court	L	X	X	X	0	--	--	0	--	--
County Court	L	--	--	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
Justice Court	L	X	X	X	0	--	--	--	--	--
PENNSYLVANIA										
Court of Common Pleas	G	X	X	X	--	X/O	X	X	X	X
District Justice Court	L	0	0	0	--	--	--	--	--	--
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	(0)	(0)	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	--	--	0	--	--	--	--	--	--

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held in this case type.

0 = Only bench trials are held in this case type.

X/O = Jury trials are used in some subcategories, but not in others.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

() = Small claims cases do not include one of the usual three case types: torts, contracts, and real property rights.
Unless otherwise indicated, it is assumed that small claims cases may be any of the three.

Table 5: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- diction	Tort	Contract	Real property rights	Small claims	Domestic relations	Mental health	Estate	Adminis- trative agency appeal	Trial court appeal
PUERTO RICO										
Superior Court	G	O	O	O	--	O	--	O	O	O
District Court	L	O	O	O	--	O	--	--	O	--
RHODE ISLAND										
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	X	X
District Court	G	O	O	O	O	--	O	--	O	--
Family Court	L	--	--	--	--	O	--	--	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	--	--	O	--	--
SOUTH CAROLINA										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	--	--	--	O	O
Family Court	L	--	--	--	--	O	--	--	--	--
Magistrate Court	L	X	X	X	X	X	--	--	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	--	O	O	--	--
SOUTH DAKOTA										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	O	X	X	X	X	X
TENNESSEE										
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
Law and Equity Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
Chancery Court	G	--	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
General Sessions Court	L	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	--	--	O	--	--
Juvenile Court	L	--	--	--	--	O	O	--	--	--
TEXAS										
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	X	X	--
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court, and Probate Court	L	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	--	X
Justice of the Peace Court	L	X	X	X	O	--	O	--	--	--
UTAH										
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	O	O
Circuit Court	L	X	X	X	O	--	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	O	O	--	O	--	--	--	--	--
VERMONT										
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	X	X
District Court	G	X	X	--	O	X	X	--	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	--	--	O	O	O	--	--
VIRGINIA										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X/O	X	X	X	X
District Court	L	O	O	O	--	O	O	--	O	--
WASHINGTON										
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--	O	X	X	X	X
District Court	L	X	X	--	O	X	--	--	--	--
WEST VIRGINIA										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
Magistrate Court	L	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held in this case type.

O = Only bench trials are held in this case type.

X/O = Jury trials are used in some subcategories, but not in others.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

() = Small claims cases do not include one of the usual three case types: torts, contracts, and real property rights.
Unless otherwise indicated, it is assumed that small claims cases may be any of the three.

Table 5: (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>General/ limited juris- dictica</u>	<u>Tort</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Real property rights</u>	<u>Small claims</u>	<u>Domestic relations</u>	<u>Mental health</u>	<u>Estate</u>	<u>Adminis- trative agency appeal</u>	<u>Trial court appeal</u>
WISCONSIN										
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X	X/O	X	O	X	X
WYOMING										
District Court	G	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
County Court and Justice of the Peace Court	L	X	X	X	O	X	--	--	--	--

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held in this case type.

O = Only bench trials are held in this case type.

X/O = Jury trials are used in some subcategories, but not in others.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

() = Small claims cases do not include one of the usual three case types: torts, contracts, and real property rights.
Unless otherwise indicated, it is assumed that small claims cases may be any of the three.

Table 6. Point at which a trial is counted in civil cases, 1984

Comments: In presenting trial data from state courts, those jurisdictions that are counting trials at their beginning will not have data comparable with jurisdictions that do not count trials until their completion. States, for example, that do not count trials until a decision is rendered will have a much lower trial rate than states that count at the beginning of the trial because the latter will include cases that are settled before decision. This table shows the point of counting (for statistical reporting purposes) both civil jury trials and civil bench trials.

State/court	Jury trials				Bench trials	
	At jury selection	When jury is sworn/empaneled	At opening statement or swearing of first witness	At judgment, completion, decision	At opening statement, swearing of first witness, introduction of evidence	At judgment, completion, decision
ALABAMA						
Circuit Court				X		X
District Court				X		X
Probate Court					Unknown	
ALASKA						
Superior Court				X		X
District Court				X		X
ARIZONA						
Superior Court	X				X	
Justices of the Peace Court	X				X	
ARKANSAS						
Circuit Court		X			X	
Chancery Court					X	
Court of Common Pleas					X	
County Court					X	
Municipal Court					X	
City Court, Police Court					X	
CALIFORNIA						
Superior Court	X				X	
Justice Court	X				X	
Municipal Court	X				X	
COLORADO						
District Court		X			X	
Water Court		X			X	
County Court		X			X	
CONNECTICUT						
Superior Court		X			X	
Probate Court					X	
DELAWARE						
Court of Chancery					X	
Superior Court		X			X	
Family Court					X	
Justice of the Peace Court					X	
Court of Common Pleas					X	
Alderman's Court					X	
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA						
Superior Court				X		X
FLORIDA						
Circuit Court		X			X	
County Court		X			X	

Table 6: (continued)

State/court	Jury trials			Bench trials		
	At jury selection	When jury is sworn/empaneled	At opening statement or swearing of first witness	At judgment, completion, decision	At opening statement, swearing of first witness, introduction of evidence	At judgment, completion, decision
GEORGIA						
Superior Court				X		X
State Court				X		X
Probate Court						X
Magistrate Court					Unknown	
Municipal Court				X		X
Civil Court				X		X
HAWAII						
Circuit Court		X			X	
District Court					X	
IDAHO						
District Court		X			X	
ILLINOIS						
Circuit Court				X		X
INDIANA						
Superior Court and Circuit Court				X		X
Probate Court				X		X
County Court				X		X
Municipal Court of Marion County				X		X
Small Claims Court of Marion County						X
City Court and Town Court				X		X
IOWA						
District Court		X			X	
KANSAS						
District Court		X			X	
KENTUCKY						
Circuit Court		X			Not consistent statewide	
District Court		X			Not consistent statewide	
LOUISIANA						
District Court			X		X	
City Court and Parish Court					X	
Family Court and Juvenile Court					X	
Justice of the Peace Court					X	
MAINE						
Superior Court	X				X	
District Court					Unknown	
Probate Court					Unknown	
MARYLAND						
Circuit Court		X			X	
District Court		X			X	
Orphans' Court	Unknown					
MASSACHUSETTS						
Trial Court of the Commonwealth		X			X	
MICHIGAN						
Circuit Court		X			X	
Court of Claims	Unknown					
District Court		X			X	
Municipal Court		X			X	
Probate Court					Unknown	

Table 6: (continued)

State/court	Jury trials			Bench trials		
	At jury selection	When jury is sworn/empaneled	At opening statement or swearing of first witness	At judgment, completion, decision	At opening statement, swearing of first witness, introduction of evidence	At judgment, completion, decision
MINNESOTA						
District Court		X			X	
County Court, Probate Court, County Municipal Court, Conciliation Court		X			X	
MISSISSIPPI -- no data available						
MISSOURI						
Circuit Court			X		X	
MONTANA						
District Court				X		X
Justice of the Peace Court and Municipal Court				X		X
City Court				X		X
NEBRASKA						
District Court		X			X	
Workmen's Compensation Court	Unknown					
County Court		X			X	
Municipal Court		X			X	
NEVADA						
District Court				X		X
Justice Court				X		X
Municipal Court						X
NEW HAMPSHIRE						
Superior Court		A trial is counted at the point trial is requested				
District Court					Trials are not counted	
Probate Court					Trials are not counted	
Municipal Court					Trials are not counted	
NEW JERSEY						
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	X				X	
Superior Court Law Division, Special Civil Part	X				X	
Surrogate's Court					Unknown	
NEW MEXICO						
District Court				X		X
Magistrate Court				X		X
Probate Court		Unknown				
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court				X		X
NEW YORK						
Supreme Court				X		X
County Court				X		X
Civil Court of the City of New York				X		X
Family Court					Factfinding hearings are counted, rather than trials	
District Court and City Court				X		X
Surrogates' Court				X		X
Court of Claims					Not counted	
Town Court and Village Justice Court						X
NORTH CAROLINA						
Superior Court		X			X	
District Court		X			X	

Table 6: (continued)

State/court	Jury trials			Bench trials		
	At jury selection	When jury is sworn/empaneled	At opening statement or swearing of first witness	At judgment, completion, decision	At opening statement, swearing of first witness, introduction of evidence	At judgment, completion, decision
NORTH DAKOTA						
District Court				X		X
County Court				X		X
OHIO						
Court of Common Pleas		X			X	
County Court		X			X	
Municipal Court		X			X	
Court of Claims		X			X	
Mayor's Court					Unknown	
OKLAHOMA						
District Court		X			X (when court is called to order)	
Court of Tax Review						X
OREGON						
Circuit Court		X			X	
Tax Court					X	
District Court		X			X	
County Court					X	
Justice Court		X			X	
PENNSYLVANIA						
Court of Common Pleas				X		X
District Justice Court						X
Philadelphia Municipal Court						X
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court						X
PUERTO RICO						
Superior Court						X
District Court						X
RHODE ISLAND						
Superior Court				X		X
District Court						X
Family Court						X
Probate Court					Unknown	
SOUTH CAROLINA						
Circuit Court		A jury trial is counted at filing of case if indicated by attorney				
Family Court						X
Magistrate Court				X		X
Probate Court						X
SOUTH DAKOTA						
Circuit Court		X			X	
TENNESSEE						
Circuit Court		X			Not consistent statewide	
Law and Equity Court		X			Not consistent statewide	
Chancery Court		X			Not consistent statewide	
General Sessions Court					Not consistent statewide	
Probate Court					Not consistent statewide	
Juvenile Court					Unknown	X
TEXAS						
District Court		X			X	
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court, and Probate Court				X		X
Justice of the Peace Court				X		X

Table 6: (continued)

State/court	Jury trials			Bench trials		
	At jury selection	When jury is sworn/empaneled	At opening statement or swearing of first witness	At judgment, completion, decision	At opening statement, swearing of first witness, introduction of evidence	At judgment, completion, decision
UTAH						
District Court		X			X	
Circuit Court		X			X	
Justice Court					X	
VERMONT						
Superior Court				X		X
District Court				X		X
Probate Court						X
VIRGINIA						
Circuit Court		X			X	
District Court					X	
WASHINGTON						
Superior Court		X			X	
District Court		X			X	
WEST VIRGINIA						
Circuit Court	X				X (not consistent statewide)	
Magistrate Court	Not consistent statewide					
WISCONSIN						
Circuit Court				X		X
WYOMING						
District Court		X			X	
County Court		X			X	
Justice of the Peace Court		X			X	

Table 7. Criminal case type jurisdiction by state trial court, 1984

Comments: The criminal case type classifications used in this table are those used in the State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report series. They have been chosen as a model set of data elements for caseload inventory by the COSCA Court Statistics and Information Systems Committee and are defined in State Court Model Statistical Dictionary and Supplement.

One additional case type has been added to this table--"limited felony"--to identify that stage in case processing that takes place before the filing of the information or indictment, in contrast to "triable felony," which is the stage following the filing of the information or indictment. In two-tier trial court systems, these two stages of felony case processing generally take place in different courts. In single-tier trial courts, the limited felony stage of case processing is generally not counted.

In the trial court jurisdiction guide, CSIM staff have ascertained from AOC staff in each state exactly what case types are handled in each court and how they should be classified into the CSIM caseload inventory.

<u>State/court</u>	<u>General/ limited juris- diction</u>	<u>Triable felony</u>	<u>Limited felony</u>	<u>Misde- meanor</u>	<u>DWI/ DUI</u>	<u>Trial court appeal</u>	<u>Miscellaneous</u>
ALABAMA							
Circuit Court	G	X	--	X	X	X	--
District Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court (does not report data to the AOC)	L	--	--	X	X	--	--
ALASKA							
Superior Court	G	X	--	X	--	X	X
District Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	X
ARIZONA							
Superior Court	G	X	--	X	--	X	X
Justices of the Peace Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	--	X	X	--	--
ARKANSAS							
Circuit Court	G	X	--	X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
City Court, Police Court	L	--	--	X	X	--	--
CALIFORNIA							
Superior Court	G	X	--	--	X	X	--
Justice Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
COLORADO							
District Court	G	X	X (for some -- counties)	--	--	X	X
County Court	L	-	X	X	X	X	--
CONNECTICUT							
Superior Court	G	X	X (not counted)	X	X	--	--
DELAWARE							
Superior Court	G	X	--	X	--	X	--
Family Court	L	--	--	X	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace	L	--	--	X	X	--	--
Court of Common Pleas	L	--	X	X	--	--	--
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	--	X (not counted)	X	X	--	--
Alderman's Court	L	--	--	X	X	--	--

X = The court has jurisdiction over this case type.

-- = The court does not have jurisdiction over this case type.

(not counted) = This court reports data to the AOC, but does not include this case category in its reported caseload inventory because the court does not count felony cases until the filing of the information or indictment.

Table 7: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- diction	Triable felony	Limited felony	Misde- meanor	DWI/ DUI	Trial court appeal	Miscellaneous
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA							
Superior Court	G	X	X (not counted)	X	X	--	X
FLORIDA							
Circuit Court	G	X	X (not counted)	X	X	X	X
County Court	L	--	--	X	X	--	--
GEORGIA							
Superior Court	G	X	--	X	X	X	--
State Court	L	--	X (not counted)	X	X	--	--
Probate Court	L	--	--	X	X	--	--
Magistrate Court (does not report data to the AOC)	L	--	X	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court (does not report data to the AOC)	L	--	X	X	--	--	--
Civil Court (does not report data to the AOC)	L	--	X	--	--	--	--
Recorder's Court (does not report data to the AOC)	L	--	X	--	X	--	--
HAWAII							
Circuit Court	G	X	--	X	X	--	--
District Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
IDAHO							
District Court	G	X	X	--	X	X	--
ILLINOIS							
Circuit Court	G	X	X (not counted except in Cook County)	X	X	--	X
INDIANA							
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	X	--	X	X	X	X
County Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	X
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	--	X	X	X	--	X
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L	--	--	--	--	--	X
City Court and Town Court	L	--	--	X	X	--	--
IOWA							
District Court	G	X	X (not counted)	X	X	X	--
KANSAS							
District Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	--
KENTUCKY							
Circuit Court	G	X	--	X	--	X	--
District Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
LOUISIANA							
District Court	G	X	X (not counted)	X	X	X	X
City Court and Parish Court, and Municipal Court	L	--	--	X	X	--	--

X = The court has jurisdiction over this case type.

-- = The court does not have jurisdiction over this case type.

(not counted) = This court reports data to the AOC, but does not include this case category in its reported caseload inventory because the court does not count felony cases until the filing of the information or indictment.

Table 7: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- diction	Triable felony	Limited felony	Misde- meanor	DWI/ DUI	Trial court appeal	Miscellaneous
MAINE							
Superior Court	G	X	--	X	X	X	X
District Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
MARYLAND							
Circuit Court	G	X	--	X	--	X	X
District Court	L	--	(filed here but all felonies go to Circuit Court)	X	X	--	--
MASSACHUSETTS							
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:							
Superior Court Dept.	G	X	--	--	--	--	--
Housing Court Dept.	L	X	X	X	X	--	--
District Court Dept.	L	X	X	X	X	X	--
Boston Municipal Court Dept.	L	X	X	X	X	X	--
MICHIGAN							
Circuit Court	G	X	--	--	X	X	--
District Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
MINNESOTA							
District Court	G	X	--	X	--	X	--
County Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	X
County Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
MISSISSIPPI -- no data available							
MISSOURI							
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	X
MONTANA							
District Court	G	X	--	X	--	X	--
Justice of the Peace and Municipal Court	L	--	--	X	X	--	--
(does not report data to the AOC)							
City Court	L	--	--	X	X	--	--
(does not report data to the AOC)							
NEBRASKA							
District Court	G	X	--	X	X	X	--
County Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
NEVADA							
District Court	G	X	--	X	X	X	X
Justice Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	--	X	X	--	--
NEW HAMPSHIRE							
Superior Court	G	X	--	--	--	X	--
District Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--

X = The court has jurisdiction over this case type.

-- = The court does not have jurisdiction over this case type.

(not counted) = This court reports data to the AOC, but does not include this case category in its reported caseload inventory because the court does not count felony cases until the filing of the information or indictment.

Table 7: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- diction	Triable felony	Limited felony	Misde- meanor	DWI/ DUI	Trial court appeal	Miscellaneous
NEW JERSEY							
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	G	X	--	--	--	X	--
Superior Court, Law Division, Special Civil Part, Viola- tions Section	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
NEW MEXICO							
District Court	G	X	--	X	--	X	--
Magistrate Court Bernalillo County	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Metropolitan Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
NEW YORK							
Supreme Court	G	X	--	--	X	--	--
County Court	G	X	--	--	X	X	--
Criminal Court of the City of New York	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
District Court and City Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
NORTH CAROLINA							
Superior Court	G	X	--	X	--	X	--
District Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
NORTH DAKOTA							
District Court	G	X	--	X	--	X	--
County Court	L	--	X	X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	--	--	X	--	--
OHIO							
Court of Common Pleas	G	X	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	X	X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	X	X	--
Mayor's Court (does not report data to the AOC)	L	--	--	--	X	--	--
OKLAHOMA							
District Court	G	X	X (not counted)	X	X	X	X
OREGON							
Circuit Court	G	X	--	--	--	X	--
District Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Justice Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	--	X	X	--	--
PENNSYLVANIA							
Court of Common Pleas	G	X	--	X	X	X	--
District Justice Court Philadelphia	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--

X = The court has jurisdiction over this case type.

-- = The court does not have jurisdiction over this case type.

(not counted) = This court reports data to the AOC, but does not include this case category in its reported caseload inventory because the court does not count felony cases until the filing of the information or indictment.

Table 7: (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- diction	Triable felony	Limited felony	Misde- meanor	DWI/ DUI	Trial court appeal	Miscellaneous
PUERTO RICO							
Superior Court	G	X	--	X	--	X	--
District Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
RHODE ISLAND							
Superior Court	G	X	--	X	X	X	--
District Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
SOUTH CAROLINA							
Circuit Court	G	X	--	X	X	X	--
Magistrate Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
SOUTH DAKOTA							
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	--
TENNESSEE							
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	G	X	X (not counted)	X	X	X	--
General Sessions Court (does not report data to the AOC)	L	--	--	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court (does not report data to the AOC)	L	--	--	X	X	--	--
TEXAS							
District Court and Criminal District Court	G	X	--	X	X	--	X
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court	L	--	--	X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	--	X	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	(filed here but all felonies go to Criminal District Court)	X	--	--	--
UTAH							
District Court	G	X	--	X	--	X	--
Circuit Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
VERMONT							
District Court	G	X	X	X	X	--	--
VIRGINIA							
Circuit Court	G	X	--	X	--	X	--
District Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	X
WASHINGTON							
Superior Court	G	X	--	--	--	X	--
District Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	--	X	X	--	--

X = The court has jurisdiction over this case type.

-- = The court does not have jurisdiction over this case type.

(not counted) = This court reports data to the AOC, but does not include this case category in its reported caseload inventory because the court does not count felony cases until the filing of the information or indictment.

Table 7: (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>General/ limited juris- diction</u>	<u>Triable felony</u>	<u>Limited felony</u>	<u>Misde- meanor</u>	<u>DWI/ DUI</u>	<u>Trial court appeal</u>	<u>Miscellaneous</u>
WEST VIRGINIA							
Circuit Court	G	X	--	X	X	X	--
Magistrate Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court (does not report data to the AOC)	L	--	--	--	X	--	--
WISCONSIN							
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	--	--	X	--	--
WYOMING							
District Court	G	X	--	--	--	X	--
County Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	X	X	X	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	--	--	X	--	--

X = The court has jurisdiction over this case type.

-- = The court does not have jurisdiction over this case type.

(not counted) = This court reports data to the AOC, but does not include this case category in its reported caseload inventory because the court does not count felony cases until the filing of the information or indictment.

Table 8. Felony definitions (minimum length of sentence), 1984

Comments: In an attempt to clarify how states were defining felonies, each AOC was asked to identify the minimum length of sentence that a convicted felon could receive in state prison. This table indicates that the length of the sentence is not an adequate defining characteristic to clarify what is included in the felony case category. This subject will need further exploration in subsequent revisions of the jurisdiction guide.

State	No minimum*	Less than 1 year	1 year	More than 1 year	State	No minimum*	Less than 1 year	1 year	More than 1 year
ALABAMA				X	NEBRASKA	X			
ALASKA			X		NEVADA	X			
ARIZONA			X		NEW HAMPSHIRE	Unknown			
ARKANSAS			X		NEW JERSEY			X	
CALIFORNIA			X		NEW MEXICO				X
COLORADO		6 months			NEW YORK				X
CONNECTICUT			X		NORTH CAROLINA			X	
DELAWARE	X				NORTH DAKOTA				X
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA			X		OHIO		6 months		
FLORIDA			X		OKLAHOMA				X
GEORGIA				X	OREGON			X	
HAWAII				X	PENNSYLVANIA				X (5 years)
IDAHO				X	PUERTO RICO		6 months		
ILLINOIS			X		RHODE ISLAND			X	
INDIANA				X	SOUTH CAROLINA		3 months		
IOWA	X				SOUTH DAKOTA				X
KANSAS			X		TENNESSEE			X	
KENTUCKY				X	TEXAS				X (2 years)
LOUISIANA	X				UTAH				X
MAINE			X		VERMONT	X			
MARYLAND	X				VIRGINIA				X
MASSACHUSETTS	X				WASHINGTON				X
MICHIGAN			X		WEST VIRGINIA			X	
MINNESOTA				X	WISCONSIN				X
MISSISSIPPI -- no data available					WYOMING			X	
MISSOURI				X					
MONTANA	X								

*In some jurisdictions, felonies are defined by statutes without specifying length of sentence.

Table 9. Criminal case unit of count used by state trial courts, 1984

Comments: Criminal caseloads are not comparable if the courts are not defining cases in similar ways. This table indicates the point at which a criminal case is counted, the way in which defendants are counted, and the contents of the charging document. Each of these affects the comparability of caseload statistics. Courts that count criminal cases at the complaint are beginning the count at a much earlier point in the process than courts that wait until the information or indictment. Those courts counting at the filing of the complaint will have a larger case count than courts that count cases at a later point in the process. Similarly, the number of defendants per case and the contents of the charging document can affect the case count. Courts, for example, that count each charge as a case will have a much larger case count than courts that count all charges relevant to a single incident as one case.

Name of Court	General/ limited juris- diction	Point of counting criminal case	Single defen- dant	One or more defen- dants	Contents of Charging Document		
					Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimi- ted # of charges)
ALABAMA							
Circuit Court	G	Indictment	X				X
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		Unknown		
ALASKA							
Superior Court	G	Indictment		X			X
District Court	L	Complaint		X			X
ARIZONA							
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
Justices of the Peace Court	L	Complaint	X		X (after 1/7/84)		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
ARKANSAS							
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X		X		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
City Court, Police Ct.	L	Complaint	X		X		
CALIFORNIA							
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
Justice Court	L	Complaint	X				X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X
COLORADO							
District Court	G	First appearance for some counties; information for cases coming up from County Court.	X				X
County Court	L	Complaint/summons	X				X
CONNECTICUT							
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
DELAWARE							
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
Family Court	L	Complaint	X				X
Justice of the Peace Ct.	L	Complaint	X		X		
Court of Common Pleas	L	Complaint	X		X		
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	Complaint	X		X		
Alderman's Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA							
Superior Court	G	Complaint/information/ indictment	X				X

Table 9: (continued)

Name of Court	General/ limited juris- diction	Point of counting criminal case	Single defen- dant	One or more defen- dants	Contents of Charging Document		
					Single charge	Single incident (set 0 of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimi- ted 0 of charges)
FLORIDA							
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment or sworn complaint	X		(Prosecutor decides)		
County Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
GEORGIA							
Superior Court	G	Indictment, accusation		X			X
State Court and County Court	L	Accusation		X			X
Magistrate Court	L	Complaint	X				X
Probate Court	L	Accusation	X				X
Municipal Court	L	No data reported					
Civil Court	L	No data reported					
Recorder's Court	L	No data reported					
HAWAII							
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/indictment	X				X (most seri- ous charge
District Court	L	Information or complaint	X				X (most seri- ous charge
IDAHO							
District Court	G	Information	X				X
Magistrates Division	G	Complaint	X				X
ILLINOIS							
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/information/indictment		X			X
INDIANA							
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment		X			X (may not be consistent)
County Court	L	Information/complaint		X			X (may not be consistent)
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	Information/complaint		X			X (may not be consistent)
City Court and Town Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X (may not be con- sistent)
IOWA							
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
KANSAS							
District Court	G	First appearance/ information/indictment	X				X
KENTUCKY							
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X
LOUISIANA							
District Court	G	Information/indictment	Varies		Varies		
City Court and Parish Court, and Municipal Court and Traffic Court of New Orleans	L	Information, complaint		X			X
Justice of the Peace Ct.	L	No data reported					
MAINE							
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
District Court	L	Information, complaint		X			X
MARYLAND							
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
District Court	L	Citation/information	X				X

Table 9: (continued)

Name of Court	General/ limited juris- diction	Point of counting criminal case	Single defen- dant	One or more defen- dants	Contents of Charging Document		
					Single charge	Single incident (set 1 of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimi- ted 1 of charges)
MASSACHUSETTS							
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:							
Superior Court Dept.	G	Information/indictment		Not counted			X
Housing Court Dept.	L	Complaint	X				X
District Court Dept.	L	Complaint	X				X
Boston Municipal Ct.	L	Complaint	X				X
MICHIGAN							
Circuit Court	G	Information	X				X
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X
MINNESOTA							
District Court	G	Complaint	X				X
County Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
County Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
MISSISSIPPI							
		No data available					
MISSOURI							
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/information/ indictment		Not consistent statewide (depends on prosecutor)			
MONTANA							
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X			X
Justice of Peace Court and Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X
City Court	L	Complaint	X				X
NEBRASKA							
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X			(not consistent statewide)	X
County Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X
NEVADA							
District Court	G	Information/indictment	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor		
Justice Court	L	Complaint	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor		
NEW HAMPSHIRE							
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X		X		
District Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
NEW JERSEY							
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	G	Indictment/accusation	X				X
Superior Court (Law Division, Special Civil Part, Violations Section)	L	Complaint	X				X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X
NEW MEXICO							
District Court	G	Complaint	X				X
Magistrate Court	L	Complaint	X				X
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	L	Complaint	X				X

Table 9: (continued)

Name of Court	General/ limited juris- diction	Point of counting criminal case	Single defen- dant	One or more defen- dants	Contents of Charging Document		
					Single charge	Single incident (set 2 of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimi- ted 2 of charges)
NEW YORK							
Supreme Court	G	Information/indictment		X			X (may vary w/prosec.)
County Court	G	Information/indictment		X			X (may vary)
Criminal Court of the City of New York	L	Issue of docket number		X			X
District Court and City Court	L	Complaint	X				X
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
NORTH CAROLINA							
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
District Court	L	Complaint/summons	X			X (2 max)	
NORTH DAKOTA							
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X (may vary)
County Court	L	Complaint, information	X	Varies			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X
OHIO							
Court of Common Pleas	G	Arraignment	X				X
County Court	L	Warrant, summons	X				X
Municipal Court	L	Warrant, summons	X				X
Mayor's Court	L	No data reported					
OKLAHOMA							
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X			X
OREGON							
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/indictment	X		(Number of charges not consistent statewide)		
District Court	L	Complaint/Indictment	X		ditto		
Justice Court	L	Complaint	X		ditto		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
PENNSYLVANIA							
Court of Common Pleas	G	Information or docket transcript	X				X
District Justice Court	L	Complaint	X				X
Phila. Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	Complaint	X				X
PUERTO RICO							
Superior Court	G	Accusation	X		X		
District Court	L	Complaint (charge)	X		X		
RHODE ISLAND							
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
District Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
SOUTH CAROLINA							
Circuit Court	G	Indictment	X				X
Magistrate Court	L	Warrant, summons	X				X
Municipal Court	L	Warrant, summons	X				X
SOUTH DAKOTA							
Circuit Court	G	Complaint	X				X

Table 9: (continued)

Name of Court	General/limited jurisdiction	Point of counting criminal case	Single defendant	One or more defendants	Contents of Charging Document		
					Single charge	Single incident (set 3 of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited 3 of charges)
TENNESSEE							
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	G	Information/indictment		Not consistent statewide			
General Sessions Court	L	No data reported					
Municipal Court	L	No data reported					
TEXAS							
District Court and Criminal District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X
Constitutional County Court	L	Complaint/information	X			(varies)	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
Justice of the Peace CT.	L	Complaint	X		X		
UTAH							
District Court	G	Information		X			X
Circuit Court	L	Information/citation		X			X
Justice Court	L	Citation	X				X
VERMONT							
District Court	G	First appearance	X		X		X
VIRGINIA							
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X		X		
District Court	L	Warrant/summons	X		X		
WASHINGTON							
Superior Court	G	Information		X			X
District Court	L	Complaint/citation	X			X (2 max)	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint/citation	X			X (2 max)	
WEST VIRGINIA							
Circuit Court	G	Indictment/information		X			X
Magistrate Court	L	Warrant		X			X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X		
WISCONSIN							
Circuit Court	G	Initial appearance	X				X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint/citation	X		X		
WYOMING							
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X			X
County Court	L	Complaint/information		X			X
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Complaint/information		X			X
Municipal Court	L	Citation/complaint	X		X		

Table 10. Criminal case types in which jury trials and bench trials are used in state trial courts, 1984

Comments: The information contained in this table permits the identification of each case type where a jury trial and/or bench trial is used, as well as the case types over which each court does not have jurisdiction. This permits the identification of courts from which trial data could be reported and the kind of trial data to expect.

<u>State/court</u>	<u>General/ limited juris- diction</u>	<u>Triable felony</u>	<u>Misdemeanor</u>	<u>DWI/ DUI</u>	<u>Trial court appeal</u>
ALABAMA					
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X
District Court	L	--	O	O	--
Municipal Court	L	--	O	O	--
ALASKA					
Superior Court	G	X	X	--	O
District Court	L	--	X	X	--
ARIZONA					
Superior Court	G	X	X	--	X
Justices of the Peace Court	L	--	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	--
ARKANSAS					
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X
Municipal Court	L	--	O	O	--
City Court, Police Court	L	--	O	O	--
CALIFORNIA					
Superior Court	G	X	--	X	X
Justice Court	L	--	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	--
COLORADO					
District Court	G	X	--	--	O
County Court	L	--	X	X	O
CONNECTICUT					
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held.

O = Bench trials are held in this case type.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 10: (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>General/ limited juris- diction</u>	<u>Triable felony</u>	<u>Misdemeanor</u>	<u>DWI/ DUI</u>	<u>Trial court appeal</u>
DELAWARE					
Superior Court	G	X	X	--	X
Family Court	L	--	0	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0	0	--
Court of Common Pleas	L	--	X	--	--
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	--	0	0	--
Alderman's Court	L	--	0	0	--
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA					
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	--
FLORIDA					
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	0
County Court	L	--	X	X	--
GEORGIA					
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	X
State Court	L	--	X	X	--
Probate Court	L	--	0	0	--
Municipal Court	L	--	0	--	--
Recorder's Court	L	--	--	0	--
HAWAII					
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X
District Court	L	--	0	0	--
IDAHO					
District Court	G	X	X	X	X
ILLINOIS					
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--
INDIANA					
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X
County Court	L	--	X	X	--
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	--	X	X	--
City Court and Town Court	L	--	X	X	X

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held.

0 = Bench trials are held in this case type.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 10: (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>General/ limited juris- diction</u>	<u>Triable felony</u>	<u>Misdemeanor</u>	<u>DWI/ DUI</u>	<u>Trial court appeal</u>
IOWA					
District Court	G	X	X	X	X
KANSAS					
District Court	G	X	X	X	X
KENTUCKY					
Circuit Court	G	X	X	--	X
District Court	L	--	X	X	--
LOUISIANA					
District Court	G	X	X	X	0
City Court and Parish Court, and Municipal Court and Traffic Court of New Orleans	L	--	0	0	--
MAINE					
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	X
District Court	L	--	0	0	--
MARYLAND					
Circuit Court	G	X	X	--	X
District Court	L	--	0	0	--
MASSACHUSETTS					
Trial Court of the Commonwealth: Superior Court Department	G	X	--	--	--
Housing Court Department	L	X	X	X	--
District Court Department	L	X	X	X	X
Boston Municipal Court Dept.	L	X	X	X	X
MICHIGAN					
Circuit Court	G	X	--	X	X
District Court	L	--	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	--

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held.

0 = Bench trials are held in this case type.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 10: (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>General/ limited juris- diction</u>	<u>Triable felony</u>	<u>Misdemeanor</u>	<u>DWI/ DUI</u>	<u>Trial court appeal</u>
MINNESOTA					
District Court	G	X	X	--	0
County Court and County Muni- cipal Court	L	--	X	X	--
MISSISSIPPI -- no data available					
MISSOURI					
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X
MONTANA					
District Court Justice of the Peace Court and Municipal Court	G	X	X	--	X
City Court	L	--	X	X	--
NEBRASKA					
District Court	G	X	X	X	0
County Court	L	--	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	0	0	--
NEVADA					
District Court	G	X	X	X	X
Justice Court	L	--	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	0	0	--
NEW HAMPSHIRE					
Superior Court	G	X	--	--	X
District Court	L	--	0	0	--
Municipal Court	L	--	0	0	--
NEW JERSEY					
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	G	X	--	--	0
Superior Court Law Division, Special Civil Part, Viola- tions Section	L	--	0	0	--
Municipal Court	L	--	0	0	--

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held.

0 = Bench trials are held in this case type.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 10: (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>General/ limited juris- diction</u>	<u>Triable felony</u>	<u>Misdemeanor</u>	<u>DWI/ DUI</u>	<u>Trial court appeal</u>
NEW MEXICO					
District Court	G	X	X	--	X
Magistrate Court	L	--	X	X	--
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Ct.	L	--	X	X	--
NEW YORK					
Supreme Court	G	X	--	X	--
County Court	G	X	--	X	0
Criminal Court of the City of New York	L	--	X	X	--
District Court and City Court	L	--	X	X	--
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L	--	X	X	--
NORTH CAROLINA					
Superior Court	G	X (required)		X	--
District Court	L	--	0	0	--
NORTH DAKOTA					
District Court	G	X	X	--	X
County Court	L	--	X	X	X
Municipal Court	L	--	--	0	--
OHIO					
Court of Common Pleas	G	X	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	X	X	X
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	X
Mayor's Court	L	--	--	0	--
OKLAHOMA					
District Court	G	X	X	X	X
OREGON					
Circuit Court	G	X	--	--	X
District Court	L	--	X	X	--
Justice Court	L	--	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	--

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held.

0 = Bench trials are held in this case type.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 10: (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>General/ limited juris- diction</u>	<u>Triable felony</u>	<u>Misdemeanor</u>	<u>DWI/ DUI</u>	<u>Trial court appeal</u>
PENNSYLVANIA					
Court of Common Pleas	G	X	X	X	X
District Justice Court	L	--	O	O	--
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	--	O	O	--
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Ct.	L	--	O	O	--
PUERTO RICO					
Superior Court	G	X	X	--	X
District Court	L	--	O	O	--
RHODE ISLAND					
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	X
District Court	G	--	O	O	--
SOUTH CAROLINA					
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	O
Magistrate Court	L	--	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	--
SOUTH DAKOTA					
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X
TENNESSEE					
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	G	X	X	X	X
General Sessions Court	L	--	O	O	--
Municipal Court	L	--	O	O	--
TEXAS					
District Court and Criminal District Court	G	X	X	X	--
Constitutional County Court	L	--	X	X	X
Municipal Court	L	--	X	--	--
Justices of the Peace Court	L	--	X	--	--

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held.

O = Bench trials are held in this case type.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 10: (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>General/ limited juris- diction</u>	<u>Triable felony</u>	<u>Misdemeanor</u>	<u>DWI/ LUI</u>	<u>Trial court appeal</u>
UTAH					
District Court	G	X	X	--	0
Circuit Court	L	--	X	X	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0	0	--
VERMONT					
District Court	G	X	X	X	--
VIRGINIA					
Circuit Court	G	X	X	--	X
District Court	L	--	0	0	--
WASHINGTON					
Superior Court	G	X	--	--	X
District Court	L	--	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	X	X	--
WEST VIRGINIA					
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	X
Magistrate Court	L	--	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	--	0	--
WISCONSIN					
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	--
Municipal Justice Court	L	--	--	0	--
WYOMING					
District Court	G	X	--	--	X
County Court	L	--	X	X	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	X	X	--
Municipal Court	L	--	--	X	--

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held.

0 = Bench trials are held in this case type.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 11. Point at which disposition is counted in criminal cases, 1984

Comments: In presenting trial data for state courts, trial data from those jurisdictions that are counting trials at their beginning are not comparable with trial data from jurisdictions that do not count trials until their completion. This table shows the point of counting (for statistical reporting purposes) both criminal jury trials and criminal bench trials.

State/court	Jury trial			Bench trial		
	At jury selection	When jury is sworn/empaneled	At opening statement or swearing of first witness	At verdict, completion, or decision	At opening statement, introduction of evidence	At judgment, completion, decision
ALABAMA						
Circuit Court				X		X
District Court						X
Municipal Court					Unknown	
ALASKA						
Superior Court				X		X
District Court				X		X
ARIZONA						
Superior Court	X				X	
Justices of the Peace Ct.	X				X	
Municipal Court	X				X	
ARKANSAS						
Circuit Court		X			X	
Municipal Court					X	
City Court, Police Ct.					X	
CALIFORNIA						
Superior Court		X			X	
Justice Court	X				X	
Municipal Court	X				X	
COLORADO						
District Court		X			X	
County Court		X			X	
CONNECTICUT						
Superior Court		X			X	
DELAWARE						
Superior Court		X			X	
Family Court					X	
Justice of the Peace Ct.					X	
Court of Common Pleas		X			X	
Municipal Court of Wilmington					X	
Alderman's Court					X	
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA						
Superior Court		X			X	
FLORIDA						
Circuit Court		X			X	
County Court		X			X	
GEORGIA						
Superior Court				X		X
State Court				X		X
Probate Court						X
Municipal Court						X
Recorder's Court					Unknown	

Table 11. (continued)

State/court	Jury trial			Bench trial		
	At jury selection	When jury is sworn/empaneled	At opening statement or swearing of first witness	At verdict, completion, or decision	At opening statement, introduction of evidence	At judgment, completion, decision
HAWAII						
Circuit Court		X			X	
District Court					X	
IDAHO						
District Court		X			X	
ILLINOIS						
Circuit Court				X		X
INDIANA						
Superior Court and Circuit Court				X		X
County Court				X		X
Municipal Court of Marion County				X		X
City Ct. and Town Court				X		X
IOWA						
District Court		X			X	
KANSAS						
District Court		X			X	
KENTUCKY						
Circuit Court		X			Not consistent statewide	
District Court		X			Not consistent statewide	
LOUISIANA						
District Court			X		X	
City Court and Parish Court, and Municipal Court and Traffic Court of New Orleans					X	
MAINE						
Superior Court	X				X	
District Court	Unknown					
MARYLAND						
Circuit Court		X			X	
District Court					X	
MASSACHUSETTS						
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:		X			X	
MICHIGAN						
Circuit Court		X			X	
District Court		X			X	
Municipal Court		X			X	
MINNESOTA						
District Court		X			X	
County Court, County Municipal Court		X			X	
MISSISSIPPI -- no data available						
MISSOURI						
Circuit Court			X		X	

Table 11. (continued)

State/court	Jury trial			Bench trial		
	At jury selection	When jury is sworn/empaneled	At opening statement or swearing of first witness	At verdict, completion, or decision	At opening statement, introduction of evidence	At judgment, completion, decision
MONTANA						
District Court				X		X
Justice of the Peace Court and Municipal Court				X		X
City Court				X		X
NEBRASKA						
District Court		X			X	
County Court		X			X	
Municipal Court					X	
NEVADA						
District Court				X		X
Justice Court				X		X
Municipal Court						X
NEW HAMPSHIRE						
Superior Court	Trial is counted at point a jury trial is requested					
District Court						Trials not counted
Municipal Court						Trials not counted
NEW JERSEY						
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	X				X	
Superior Court, Special Civil Part, Violations Section					X	
Municipal Court					X	
NEW MEXICO						
District Court				X		X
Magistrate Court				X		X
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court				X		X
NEW YORK						
Supreme Court				X		X
County Court				X		X
Criminal Court of the City of New York				X		X
District Court and City Court				X		X
Town Court and Village Justice Court				X		X
NORTH CAROLINA						
Superior Court		X			X	
District Court					X	
NORTH DAKOTA						
District Court				X		X
County Court				X		X
Municipal Court						X
OHIO						
Court of Common Pleas		X			X	
County Court		X			X	
Municipal Court		X			X	
OKLAHOMA						
District Court	X				X (when court is called to order)	

Table 11. (continued)

State/court	Jury trial			Bench trial		
	At jury selection	When jury is sworn/empaneled	At opening statement or swearing of first witness	At verdict, completion, or decision	At opening statement, introduction of evidence	At judgment, completion, decision
OREGON						
Circuit Court		X			X	
District Court		X			X	
Justice Court		X			X	
Municipal Court		X			X	
PENNSYLVANIA						
Court of Common Pleas				X		X
District Justice Court						X
Phila. Municipal Court						X
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court						X
PUERTO RICO						
Superior Court				X		X
District Court						X
RHODE ISLAND						
Superior Court				X		X
District Court						X
SOUTH CAROLINA						
Circuit Court				X		X
Magistrate Court				X		X
Municipal Court				X		X
SOUTH DAKOTA						
Circuit Court		X			X	
TENNESSEE						
Circuit Court and Criminal Court		X				
General Sessions Court						Not consistent statewide
Municipal Court						Unknown
TEXAS						
District Court and Criminal District Court		X			X	
Constitutional County Court				X		X
Municipal Court				X		X
Justice of the Peace Ct.				X		X
UTAH						
District Court		X			X	
Circuit Court		X			X	
Justice of the Peace Court					X	
VERMONT						
District Court				X		X
VIRGINIA						
Circuit Court		X			X	
District Court					X	
WASHINGTON						
Superior Court		X			X	
District Court		X			X	
Municipal Court		X			X	
WEST VIRGINIA						
Circuit Court	X				X	
Magistrate Court						Not consistent statewide
Municipal Court						Not consistent statewide

Table 11. (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>Jury trial</u>			<u>Bench trial</u>		
	<u>At jury selection</u>	<u>When jury is sworn/empaneled</u>	<u>At opening statement or swearing of first witness</u>	<u>At verdict, completion, or decision</u>	<u>At opening statement, introduction of evidence</u>	<u>At judgment, completion, decision</u>
<u>WISCONSIN</u>						
Circuit Court				X		X
Municipal Court						X
<u>WYOMING</u>						
District Court		X			X	
County Court		X			X	
Justice of the Peace Court		X			X	
Municipal Court		X			X	

Table 12. Point at which disposition is counted in criminal cases for statistical reporting purposes, 1984

Comments: If courts are counting the disposition of cases at different points, then time-to-disposition data and status of cases data are not comparable. This is more important in caseload data than for caseload inventory.

This table indicates that the counting of dispositions (for statistical reporting purposes) varies, with many courts counting trial dispositions at the time judgment is pronounced, but many others wait until sentencing.

<u>State/court</u>	<u>At adju- dication</u>	<u>At entry of judgment</u>	<u>At sentencing</u>
ALABAMA			
Circuit Court	X		
District Court	X		
Municipal Court	Unknown		
ALASKA			
Superior Court			X
District Court			X
ARIZONA			
Superior Court			X
Justice of the Peace Court			X
Municipal Court			X
ARKANSAS			
Circuit Court			X
Municipal Court	X		
City Court, Police Court	X		
CALIFORNIA			
Superior Court	X		
Justice Court	X		
Municipal Court	X		
COLORADO			
District Court			X
County Court			X
CONNECTICUT			
Superior Court			X
DELAWARE			
Superior Court		X	
Family Court		X	
Justice of the Peace		X	
Court of Common Pleas		X	
Municipal Court of Wilmington		X	
Alderman's Court		X	

<u>State/court</u>	<u>At adju- dication</u>	<u>At entry of judgment</u>	<u>At sentencing</u>
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA			
Superior Court	X		
FLORIDA			
Circuit Court	X		
County Court	X		
GEORGIA			
Superior Court		X	
State Court		X	
Probate Court		X	
Municipal Court		X	
Civil Court	Unknown		
Recorder's Court	Unknown		
HAWAII			
Circuit Court		X	
District Court		X	
IDAHO			
District Court		X	
ILLINOIS			
Circuit Court			X
INDIANA			
Superior Court and Circuit Court			X
County Court			X
Municipal Court of Marion County			X
City Ct. and Town Court			X
IOWA			
District Court	X (jury trial)		X (bench trial)
KANSAS			
District Court	X		
KENTUCKY			
Circuit Court		X	
District Court		X	

LOUISIANA

District Court	X	
City Court and Parish Court, and Municipal Court and Traffic Court of New Orleans	X	

MAINE

Superior Court	X	
District Court	X	

MARYLAND

Circuit Court		X
District Court		X

MASSACHUSETTS

Trial Court of the Commonwealth		X
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MICHIGAN

Circuit Court	X	
District Court	X	
Municipal Court	X	

MINNESOTA

District Court		X
County Court		X
County Municipal Court		X

MISSISSIPPI -- no data available

MISSOURI

Circuit Court	X	
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MONTANA

District Court		X
Justice of the Peace and Municipal Court		X
City Court		X

NEBRASKA

District Court		X
County Court		X
Municipal Court		X

NEVADA

District Court	X	
Justice Court	X	
Municipal Court	X	

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Superior Court		X
District Court		X
Municipal Court		X

NEW JERSEY

Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	X	
Superior Court Law Division, Special Civil Part, Violations Section		X
Municipal Court		X

NEW MEXICO

District Court		X
Magistrate Court		X
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court		X

NEW YORK

Supreme Court	X	
County Court	X	
Criminal Court of the City of New York	X	
District Court and City Court	X	
Town Court and Village Justice Court	X	

NORTH CAROLINA

Superior Court	X	
District Court	X	

NORTH DAKOTA

District Court		X
County Court		X
Municipal Court		X

OHIO

Court of Common Pleas		X
County Court		X
Municipal Court		X
Mayor's Court	Unknown	

OKLAHOMA

District Court	X	
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OREGON

Circuit Court	X	
District Court	X	
Justice Court	X	
Municipal Court	X	

PENNSYLVANIA

Court of Common Pleas	X	
District Justice Court	X	
Philadelphia Municipal Court	X	
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	X	

Table 12: (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>At adju- dication</u>	<u>At entry of judgment</u>	<u>At sentencing</u>
<u>PUERTO RICO</u>			
Superior Court			X
District Court			X
<u>RHODE ISLAND</u>			
Superior Court	X		
District Court	X		
<u>SOUTH CAROLINA</u>			
Circuit Court			X
Magistrate Court		X	
Municipal Court		X	
<u>SOUTH DAKOTA</u>			
Circuit Court	X		
<u>TENNESSEE</u>			
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	X		
General Sessions Court	Unknown		
Municipal Court	Unknown		
<u>TEXAS</u>			
District Court and Criminal District Court			X
Constitutional County Court			X
Municipal Court			X
Justice of the Peace Court			

<u>State/court</u>	<u>At adju- dication</u>	<u>At entry of judgment</u>	<u>At sentencing</u>
<u>UTAH</u>			
District Court			X
Circuit Court			X
Justice Court			X
<u>VERMONT</u>			
District Court			X
<u>VIRGINIA</u>			
Circuit Court			X
District Court			X
<u>WASHINGTON</u>			
Superior Court	Not consistent statewide		
District Court		X	
Municipal Court		X	
<u>WEST VIRGINIA</u>			
Circuit Court			X
Magistrate Court			X
Municipal Court	Unknown		
<u>WISCONSIN</u>			
Circuit Court			X
Municipal Court			X
<u>WYOMING</u>			
District Court	X		
County Court	X		
Justice of the Peace Court	X		
Municipal Court	X		

Table 13. Initiation of limited and triable felony cases in state trial courts, 1984

Comments: This table was initially planned to indicate the use of felony preliminary hearings in trial courts, but in the course of collecting information on preliminary hearings from the AOCs, CSIM project staff learned that a great deal of additional information was needed to understand and compare the felony statistics being reported by state trial courts.

The first three columns in this table indicate the process used in each state to protect the defendant's rights. The fourth and fifth columns indicate the court jurisdiction and when a felony filing is counted in each court. The next four columns define whether felonies filed are triable or limited in each court. The final two columns are important for statistical aggregation because they indicate whether statistics reported by each court permit the subtraction of defendants bound over after preliminary hearing from total felony filings in the state, thus avoiding double counting of felony cases. Each of the last two columns must contain a yes for the statistics to be usable. Any state that has a no in the next to the last column is counting fewer felony cases than states that have a yes in that column.

Name of court	Process used to protect defendant's rights			Jurisdiction	At what point does this court count a felony case?	Limited/triable felonies				*Are limited felony filings reported by this court?	Are limited felony manner of disposition data reported by this court?
	Are grand juries re-quired in this state?	Are felony prelim. hearings re-quired in this state?	Is prelim. in lieu of or in addition to grand jury?			Are felonies tried in this court?	Can judge in this court accept plea in felony case?	Can judge in this court dismiss felony case?			
ALABAMA											
Circuit Court	Yes	Yes	Addition	G	Indictment	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
District Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	No
Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	No				
ALASKA											
Superior Court	Either prelim or grand jury		In lieu of	G	Indictment	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
District Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	Yes
ARIZONA											
Superior Court	Either prelim or grand jury		In lieu of	G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
Justices of the Peace Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	No				
ARKANSAS											
Circuit Court	Rare	Yes	In lieu of	G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
City Court, Police Court				L	Complaint	No	No				
CALIFORNIA											
Superior Court	No	Yes	In lieu of	G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
Justice Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	Yes

-- = Not applicable.

*This question applies only to felony charges, not to charges reduced to misdemeanors.

Table 13: continued

Name of court	Process used to protect defendant's rights			Jurisdiction	At what point does this court count a felony case?	Limited/triable felonies				*Are limited felony filings reported by this court?	Are limited felony manner of disposition data reported by this court?
	Are grand juries required in this state?	Are felony prelim. hearings re-quired in this state?	Is prelim. in lieu of or in addition to grand jury?			Are felonies tried in this court?	Are prelim. hearings held in this court?	Can judge in this court accept plea in felony case?	Can judge in this court dismiss felony case?		
COLORADO											
District Court	No	Yes	(No grand jury)	G	Initial appearance; info.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	For some counties	No
County Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
CONNECTICUT											
Superior Court	??	Yes	Addition	G	Info/indict	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
DELAWARE											
Superior Court	Yes	Yes	In lieu of	G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
Justice of the Peace Court				L	Complaint	No	No				
Court of Common Pleas				L	Complaint	No	Yes	Misdemeanor only		Yes	Yes
Municipal Court of Wilmington				L	Complaint	No	Yes	?	?	No	No
Alderman's Court				L	Complaint	No	No				
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA											
Superior Court	Yes	Yes	Addition	G	Complaint/info/indict	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
FLORIDA											
Circuit Court	Yes	No	In lieu of (rare)	G	Complaint/info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
County Court				L	Complaint	No	Rarely	No	No	No	
GEORGIA											
Superior Court	Yes	No	In lieu of	G	Indict/accusation	Yes	Rare	Yes	Yes	No	
State Court				L	Accusation	No	Rare	No	Yes	No	
Probate Court				L	Accusation	No	No				
Magistrate Court				L	Complaint	No	Rare	No	Yes	No	
Municipal Court				L	Unknown	No	Unknown				
Civil Court				L	Unknown	No	Unknown				
Recorder's Court				L	Unknown	No	Unknown				
HAWAII											
Circuit Court	Yes	No	In lieu of	G	Complaint/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
District Court				L	Info/complaint	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	Yes

-- = Not applicable.

*This question applies only to felony charges, not to charges reduced to misdemeanors.

IDAHO	No	Yes	No grand jury									
District Court				G	Information	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--		
Magistrates Division of District Court				G	Complaint	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	
ILLINOIS	No	No	In lieu of									
Circuit Court				G	Complaint/ info/indict	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Cook County only	No	
INDIANA	No	Yes	Addition									
Superior Court and Circuit Court				G	Info/indict	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		
County Court				L	Info/complaint	No	Yes	Class D felonies		Yes	No	
Municipal Court of Marion County				L	Info/complaint	No	Yes	Class D felonies		Yes	No	
City Ct. and Town Court				L	Info/complaint	No	No					
IOWA	No	No	(Both rare)									
District Court				G	Info/indict	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
KANSAS	No	Yes	In lieu of									
District Court				G	Info/indict, first appearance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		
KENTUCKY	Yes	No	Addition									
Circuit Court				G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--		
District Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	No	
LOUISIANA	Yes	Yes	In lieu of									
District Court				G	Info/indict	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		
City Court and Parish Court, and Municipal Court and Traffic Court of New Orleans				L	Info/complaint	No	No					
MAINE	Yes	Yes	Addition									
Superior Court				G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--		
District Court				L	Info/complaint	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	No	
MARYLAND	No	No	In lieu of									
Circuit Court				G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--		
District Court				L	Info/citation	No	Rare	No	Yes	No	No	No
												(Felonies go to Circuit Court)
MASSACHUSETTS	Yes	Yes	Addition									
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:												
Superior Court Dept.				G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Not applic.		
Housing Court Dept.				L	Complaint	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
District Court Dept.				L	Complaint	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Boston Municipal Ct. Dept.				L	Complaint	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
MICHIGAN	No	Yes	In lieu of									
Circuit Court				G	Information	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Not applic.		
District Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	
Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	

-- = Not applicable.

*This question applies only to felony charges, not to charges reduced to misdemeanors.

Table 13: continued

Name of court	Process used to protect defendant's rights			Jurisdiction	At what point does this court count a felony case?	Limited/triable felonies					*Are limited felony filings reported by this court?	Are limited felony manner of disposition data reported by this court?
	Are grand juries re-quired in this state?	Are felony prelim. hearings re-quired in this state?	Is prelim. or in addition to grand jury?			Are felonies tried in this court?	Can judge in this court accept plea in felony case?	Can judge in this court dismiss felony case?	Are prelim. hearings held in this court?			
MINNESOTA												
District Court	Yes	Yes	In lieu of	G	Complaint	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--		
County Court and County Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	?	Yes	No	No	
MISSISSIPPI -- no trial court data available												
MISSOURI												
Circuit Court	No	Yes	In lieu of	G	Info/indict	Yes	Yes-in Assoc. Div.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
MONTANA												
District Court	No	No	(Both rare)	G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--		
Justice of the Peace Ct. and Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	No	No	No	No		
City Court				L	Complaint	No	No	No	No	No		
NEBRASKA												
District Court	No	Yes	(Grand jury rare)	G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--		
County Court				L	Info/complaint	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	No	
Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	No	
NEVADA												
District Court	Yes	Yes	Addition	G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--		
Justice Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	No					
NEW HAMPSHIRE												
Superior Court	Yes	No	In lieu of	G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--		
District Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	
Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	
NEW JERSEY												
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	Yes	Yes	Addition	G	Indictment/accusation	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--		
Superior Court Law Div., Special Civil Part, Violations Section				L	Complaint	No	Yes	?	?	No		
Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	No	No	No		

-- = Not applicable.

*This question applies only to felony charges, not to charges reduced to misdemeanors.

NEW MEXICO											
District Court	No	Yes	In lieu of	G	Complaint	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
Magistrate Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
NEW YORK											
Supreme Court	Yes	Yes	Addition	G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
County Court				G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
Criminal Court of the City of New York				L	Issue docket number	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
District Court and City Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Town Court and Village Justice Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
NORTH CAROLINA											
Superior Court	Yes	Yes	Addition	G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
District Court				L	Complaint/ summons	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	Yes
NORTH DAKOTA											
District Court	No	Yes	In lieu of	G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
County Court				L	Info/complaint	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	No
Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	No				
OHIO											
Court of Common Pleas	No	No	In lieu of	G	Arraignment	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
County Court				L	Warrant/summons	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court				L	Warrant/summons	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	Yes
OKLAHOMA											
District Court	No	Yes	Neither	G	Info/indict.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
OREGON											
Circuit Court	No	No	In lieu of	G	Complaint/ indictment	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
District Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	?	?	Yes	No
Justice Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	?	?	Yes	No
Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	No				
PENNSYLVANIA											
Court of Common Pleas	No	Yes	In lieu of	G	Information	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
District Justice Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Phila. Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	No	?	Yes	No
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	No	?	Yes	No
PUERTO RICO											
Superior Court	No	Yes	No grand jury	G	Accusation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
District Court				L	Complaint	No	Yes	?	?	No	No
RHODE ISLAND											
Superior Court	Yes	No	In lieu of	G	Info/indict.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
District Court				L	Complaint	No	No	No	No	Yes	No

-- = Not applicable.

*This question applies only to felony charges, not to charges reduced to misdemeanors.

Name of court	Process used to protect defendant's rights			Jurisdiction	At what point does this court count a felony case?	Limited/triable felonies					*Are limited felony filings reported by this court?	Are limited felony manner of disposition data reported by this court?
	Are grand juries required in this state?	Are felony prelim. hearings required in this state?	Is prelim. in lieu of or in addition to grand jury?			Are felonies tried in this court?	Can judge in this court accept plea in felony case?	Can judge in this court dismiss felony case?	Can judge in this court accept plea in felony case?	Can judge in this court dismiss felony case?		
SOUTH CAROLINA												
Circuit Court	Yes	Yes	Addition	G	Indictment	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	--	
Magistrate Court				L	Warrant/summons	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
Municipal Court				L	Warrant/summons	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
SOUTH DAKOTA												
Circuit Court	No	No	In lieu of	G	Complaint	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, but not separately	No
TENNESSEE												
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	Yes ?	No	(No felony prelims)	G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	--	
General Sessions Court				L	No data	No	Misdemeanors only	No data	No data			
Municipal Court				L	No data	No	No	No	No			
TEXAS												
District Court and Criminal District Court	No	No	In lieu of	G	Info/indict	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	No		
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court, & Probate Ct.				L	Info/complaint	No	No	No	No	No		
Municipal Court				L	Complaint	No	No	No	No	No		
Justice of the Peace Ct.				L	Complaint	No	No	No	No	No		
UTAH												
District Court	No	Yes	In lieu of	G	Information	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--		
Circuit Court				L	Information	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Justice of the Peace Court				L	Citation	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
VERMONT												
District Court	No	No	(No grand jury)	G	First appearance	Yes		If requested	Yes	Yes	--	
VIRGINIA												
Circuit Court	Yes	Yes	Addition	G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	--	
District Court				L	Warrant/summons	No	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

-- = Not applicable.

*This question applies only to felony charges, not to charges reduced to misdemeanors.

WASHINGTON											
	No	No	(No grand jury)								
Superior Court				G	Information	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
District Court				L	Complaint/ citation	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Municipal Court				L	Complaint/ citation	No	No				
WEST VIRGINIA											
	Yes	Yes	Addition								
Circuit Court				G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
Magistrate Court				L	Warrant	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
WISCONSIN											
	No	Yes	(No grand jury)								
Circuit Court				G	First appear- ance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
WYOMING											
	No	No	In lieu of								
District Court				G	Info/indict	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	--	
County Court				L	Complaint/info	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Justice of the Peace Court				L	Info/complaint	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

-- = Not applicable.

*This question applies only to felony charges, not to charges reduced to misdemeanors.

Table 14. Traffic/other violations handled by state trial courts, 1984

Comments: The traffic/other violations case type classifications used in this table are those used in the State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report series. They have been chosen as a model set of data elements for caseload inventory by the COSCA Court Statistics and Information Systems Committee and are defined in the Supplement to the State Court Model Statistical Dictionary.

The broad classification "traffic/other violations" is new and resulted from a decision in 1984 by the COSCA CSIS Committee to move ordinance violations out of the criminal category and combine them with traffic violations. This decision resulted from the Committee's belief that serious criminal cases should be separated from less serious cases.

In the trial court jurisdiction guide, CSIM staff have ascertained from AOC staff in each state exactly what case types are handled in each court and how they should be classified into the CSIM caseload inventory. The guide has made it clear that a large proportion of traffic/other violations cases are handled in limited jurisdiction courts that do not report data to state administrative offices.

State/court	General/ limited juris- diction	Moving traffic violations	Miscel- laneous (nonmoving) traffic violations	Parking violations		Ordinance violations
				Court has jurisdiction	Contested is included in another traf- fic category	
ALABAMA						
District Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	--
Municipal Court (does not reported data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	Unknown	X
ALASKA						
District Court	L	X	X	X (very few counted)	Yes	X
ARIZONA						
Justices of the Peace Court	L	X	X (not counted)	X (not counted)	Yes	--
Municipal Court	L	X	X (not counted)	X (not counted)	Yes	X (not counted)
ARKANSAS						
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X
City Court, Police Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X
CALIFORNIA						
Justice Court	L	X	X	X	?	X
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	?	X
COLORADO						
County Court	L	X	X	--		--
Municipal Court (does not reported data to AOC)	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Unknown	X
CONNECTICUT						
Superior Court	G	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X
DELAWARE						
Family Court*	L	X	X	--		--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	X	X	--		--
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	X	X	X	No	X
Alderman's Court	L	X	X	X	No	X
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA						
Superior Court	G	X	X	X (Capitol po- lice only)	Yes	X

* = Only juvenile traffic cases are handled in this court.

X = This court has jurisdiction in this case type

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 14. (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- diction	Moving traffic violations	Miscel- laneous (nonmoving) traffic violations	Parking violations		Ordinance violations
				Court has jurisdiction	Contested is included in another traf- fic category	
FLORIDA						
County Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X
GEORGIA						
Superior Court	G	X	X	--		X
State Court	L	X	X	--		--
Probate Court	L	X	X	--		--
Juvenile Court*	L	X	X	--		--
Magistrate Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	--	--	--		X
Recorder's Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	Unknown	X
HAWAII						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	--		--
District Court	L	X	X	X	No	X
IDAHO						
District Court	G	--	--	--		X
Magistrates Division	G	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X
ILLINOIS						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X (in Chicago and some other cities)	No	X
INDIANA						
Circuit Court and Superior Court	G	X	X	X (not known if included in caseload)		--
County Court	L	X	X	X	Yes	X
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	X	X	X	Yes	X
City Court and Town Court	L	X	X	X	Yes	X
IOWA						
District Court	G	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X
KANSAS						
District Court	G	X	X	--		--
Municipal Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	Unknown	X
KENTUCKY						
District Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X
LOUISIANA						
City Court and Parish Court, and Municipal Court and Traffic Court of New Orleans	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X
Justice of the Peace Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	Unknown	X
Mayor's Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	Unknown	X
MAINE						
Superior Court	G	X	--	--		X
District Court	L	X	X	X	Yes	X

* = Only juvenile traffic cases are handled in this court.

X = This court has jurisdiction in this case type

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 14. (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- diction	Moving traffic violations	Miscel- laneous (nonmoving) traffic violations	Parking violations		Ordinance violations
				Court has jurisdiction	Contested is included in another traf- fic category	
MARYLAND						
District Court	L	X	X	--		X
MASSACHUSETTS						
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:						
District Court Dept	L	X	X	--		X
Boston Municipal Court Dept	L	X	X	--		X
MICHIGAN						
District Court	L	X	X	--		X
Municipal Court	L	X	X	--		X
Probate Court*	L	X	X	--		--
MINNESOTA						
County Court and County Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	?	X
MISSISSIPPI (No data are available)						
MISSOURI						
Circuit Court (Municipal Department handles parking, but does not report data to AOC)	G	X	X	X	Yes	X (uncontested not counted)
MONTANA						
Justice of the Peace Court and Municipal Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	Unknown	--
City Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	Unknown	X
NEBRASKA						
County Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X
NEVADA						
Justice Court	L	X	X	X	?	--
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	?	X (not counted)
NEW HAMPSHIRE						
District Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X
NEW JERSEY						
Superior Court Law Division Special Civil Part, Violations Sections						
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	No	X
	L	X	X	X	No	X
NEW MEXICO						
Magistrate Court	L	X	X	--		--
Municipal Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	Unknown	X
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	L	X	X	X	No	X
NEW YORK						
Criminal Court of the City of New York						
District Court and City Court	L	X	X	--		X
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L	X	X	X	?	X

* = Only juvenile traffic cases are handled in this court.

X = This court has jurisdiction in this case type

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 14. (continued)

State/court	General/ limited juris- diction	Moving traffic violations	Miscel- laneous (nonmoving) traffic violations	Parking violations		Ordinance violations	
				Court has jurisdiction	Contested is included in another traf- fic category		
NORTH CAROLINA							
District Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X	
NORTH DAKOTA							
District Court*	G	X	X	X	?	X	
County Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	--	
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X (not counted)	
OHIO							
County Court	L	X	X	--		X	
Municipal Court	L	X	X	Y (not counted)	Yes	X	
Mayor's Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	Unknown	X	
OKLAHOMA							
District Court	G	X	X	--		X	
Municipal Criminal Court of Record and Municipal Court Not of Record (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	Unknown	X	
OREGON							
District Court	L	X	X	--		--	
Justice Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	--	
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X	
PENNSYLVANIA							
District Justice Court	L	X	X	X	Yes	X	
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	--	--	--	--	X	
Philadelphia Traffic Court	L	X	X	X	Yes	--	
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	X	X	X	?	X	
PUERTO RICO							
District Court	L	X	X	--		X	
Municipal Judges (does not report data to AOC)	L	Only uncontested violations handled in this court					X
RHODE ISLAND							
District Court	L	X	--	--		X	
Municipal Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	--	--	X	Unknown	X	
SOUTH CAROLINA							
Family Court*	L	X	X	--		--	
Magistrate Court	L	X	X	X	Yes	X	
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X	
SOUTH DAKOTA							
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	X	
TENNESSEE							
Circuit Court and Criminal Court (does not report data to AOC)	G	X	X	--		--	
General Sessions Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	Unknown	X	
Municipal Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Unknown	X	

* = Only juvenile traffic cases are handled in this court.
X = This court has jurisdiction in this case type
-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 14. (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>General/limited jurisdiction</u>	<u>Moving traffic violations</u>	<u>Miscellaneous (nonmoving) traffic violations</u>	<u>Parking violations</u>		<u>Ordinance violations</u>
				<u>Court has jurisdiction</u>	<u>Contested is included in another traffic category</u>	
TEXAS						
County Court at Law and Constitutional County Court	L	X	X	--		--
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	?	X
Justice of the Peace Court	L	X	X	X	Yes	--
UTAH						
Circuit Court	L	X	X	X	No	X
Justice of the Peace Court	L	X	X	X	No	X
Juvenile Court*	L	X	X	--		--
VERMONT						
District Court	G	X	X	--		X
VIRGINIA						
Circuit Court	G	--	--	--		X
District Court	L	X	X	X	Yes	X
WASHINGTON						
District Court	L	X	X	X (not counted)	Yes	--
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	?	X
WEST VIRGINIA						
Magistrate Court	L	X	X	--		--
Municipal Court (does not report data to AOC)	L	X	X	X	Unknown	X
WISCONSIN						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	Yes	X
Municipal Justice Court	L	X	X	X	?	X
WYOMING						
County Court	L	X	X	X	Yes	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	X	X	X	Yes	--
Municipal Court	L	X	X	X	Yes	X

* = Only juvenile traffic cases are handled in this court.

X = This court has jurisdiction in this case type

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

Table 15. Traffic/other violation case types in which jury trials and bench trials are used in state trial courts, 1984

Comments: The information contained in this table permits the identification of each case type where a jury trial and/or bench trial is used, as well as the case types over which each court does not have jurisdiction. This permits the identification of courts from which trial data could be reported and the kind of trial data to expect.

<u>State/court</u>	<u>Moving traffic violations</u>	<u>Parking violations</u>	<u>Miscellaneous traffic</u>	<u>Ordinance violations</u>
ALABAMA				
District Court	0	0	0	--
Municipal Court	0	0	0	0
ALASKA				
District Court	0	0	0	X
ARIZONA				
Justices of the Peace Court	X	0	0	--
Municipal Court	X	0	0	0
ARKANSAS				
Municipal Court	0	0	0	0
City Court, Police Court	0	0	0	0
CALIFORNIA				
Justice Court	X	0	X	X
Municipal Court	X	0	X	X
COLORADO				
County Court	X	--	X	--
Municipal Court	0	--	0	0
CONNECTICUT				
Superior Court	X	0	X	0
DELAWARE				
Family Court*	0	--	0	--
Justice of the Peace Court	0	--	0	--
Municipal Court of Wilmington	0	0	0	0
Alderman's Court	0	0	0	0

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held in this case type.
 0 = Bench trials are held in this case type.
 -- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.
 *Only juvenile traffic handled in this court.

Table 15. (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>Moving traffic violations</u>	<u>Parking violations</u>	<u>Miscellaneous traffic</u>	<u>Ordinance violations</u>
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA				
Superior Court	X	0	X	X
FLORIDA				
County Court	X	0	0	X
GEORGIA				
Superior Court	X	--	X	X
State Court	X	--	X	--
Probate Court	0	--	0	--
Juvenile Court*	0	--	0	--
Magistrate Court	--	--	--	0
Recorder's Court	0	0	0	
HAWAII				
Circuit Court	X	--	X	--
District Court	0	0	0	0
IDAHO				
District Court				X
Magistrates Division	X	0	X	X
ILLINOIS				
Circuit Court	X	X	X	X
INDIANA				
Circuit Court and Superior Court	X	0	X	--
County Court	X	X	X	X
Municipal Court of Marion County	X	X	X	X
City Court and Town Court	X	X	X	X
IOWA				
District Court	X	0	X	X
KANSAS				
District Court	X	--	X	--
Municipal Court	0	0	0	0
KENTUCKY				
District Court	X	X	X	X

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held in this case type.

0 = Bench trials are held in this case type.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

*Only juvenile traffic handled in this court.

Table 15. (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>Moving traffic violations</u>	<u>Parking violations</u>	<u>Miscellaneous traffic</u>	<u>Ordinance violations</u>
LOUISIANA				
City Court and Parish Court, and Municipal Court and Traffic Court of New Orleans	0	--	0	0
Justice of the Peace Court	0	0	0	0
Mayor's Court	0	0	0	0
MAINE				
Superior Court	X	--	--	0
District Court	0	0	0	0
MARYLAND				
District Court	0	--	0	0
MASSACHUSETTS				
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:				
District Court Dept	X	--	0	X
Boston Municipal Court Dept	X	--	X	X
MICHIGAN				
District Court	X	--	0	X
Municipal Court	X	--	0	X
Probate Court*	0	--	0	--
MINNESOTA				
County Court and County Municipal Court	X	0	X	X
MISSISSIPPI -- no data available				
MISSOURI				
Circuit Court	0	0	0	X
MONTANA				
Justice of the Peace Court and Municipal Court	X	X	X	--
City Court	0	0	0	0
NEBRASKA				
County Court	X	0	X	X
Municipal Court	0	0	0	0

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held in this case type.

0 = Bench trials are held in this case type.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

*Only juvenile traffic handled in this court.

Table 15. (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>Moving traffic violations</u>	<u>Parking violations</u>	<u>Miscellaneous traffic</u>	<u>Ordinance violations</u>
NEVADA				
Justice Court	X	0	X	--
Municipal Court	0	0	0	0
NEW HAMPSHIRE				
District Court	0	0	0	0
Municipal Court	0	0	0	0
NEW JERSEY				
Superior Court Law Division, Special Civil Part, Violations Section	0	0	0	0
Municipal Court	0	0	0	0
NEW MEXICO				
Magistrate Court	X	0	X	--
Municipal Court	0	0	0	0
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	0	0	0	--
NEW YORK				
Criminal Court of the City of New York	0	--	0	0
District Court and City Court	0	--	0	X
Town Court and Village Justice Court	0	0	0	X
NORTH CAROLINA				
District Court	0	0	0	0
NORTH DAKOTA				
District Court*	0	0	0	--
County Court	X	0	X	--
OHIO				
County Court	X	--	X	X
Municipal Court	X	0	X	X
Mayor's Court	0	0	0	0
OKLAHOMA				
District Court	X	--	X	X
Municipal Criminal Court of Record and Municipal Court Not of Record	X	X	X	X

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held in this case type.

0 = Bench trials are held in this case type.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

*Only juvenile traffic handled in this court.

Table 15. (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>Moving traffic violations</u>	<u>Parking violations</u>	<u>Miscellaneous traffic</u>	<u>Ordinance violations</u>
OREGON				
District Court	O	O	O	X
Justice Court	X	?	O	--
Municipal Court	X	?	O	X
PENNSYLVANIA				
District Justice Court	O	O	O	O
Philadelphia Municipal Court	--	--	--	O
Philadelphia Traffic Court	O	O	O	--
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	O	O	O	O
PUERTO RICO				
District Court	O	--	O	O
Municipal Judges	O	O	O	O
RHODE ISLAND				
District Court	O	--	--	O
Municipal Court	--	O	--	O
SOUTH CAROLINA				
Family Court*	O	--	O	--
Magistrate Court	X	?	X	X
Municipal Court	X	X	X	X
SOUTH DAKOTA				
Circuit Court	X	--	X	X
TENNESSEE				
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	X	--	?	--
General Sessions Court	O	O	O	O
Municipal Court	O	O	O	O
TEXAS				
Constitutional County Court	X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	X	X	X	X
Justice of the Peace Court	X	X	X	--
UTAH				
Circuit Court	X	O	X	X
Justice of the Peace Court	X	X	X	X
Juvenile Court*	O	--	O	--

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held in this case type.

O = Bench trials are held in this case type.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

*Only juvenile traffic handled in this court.

Table 15. (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>Moving traffic violations</u>	<u>Parking violations</u>	<u>Miscellaneous traffic</u>	<u>Ordinance violations</u>
VERMONT				
District Court	X	--	X	X
VIRGINIA				
Circuit Court	--	--	--	X
District Court	0	0	0	0
WASHINGTON				
District Court	X	0	X	--
Municipal Court	X	0	X	X
WEST VIRGINIA				
Magistrate Court	X	--	X	--
Municipal Court	0	0	0	0
WISCONSIN				
Circuit Court	X	X	X	X
Municipal Court	0	0	0	0
WYOMING				
County Court	X	X	X	--
Justice of the Peace Court	X	X	X	--
Municipal Court	X	X	X	X

X = Jury trials and bench trials are held in this case type.

0 = Bench trials are held in this case type.

-- = This court does not have jurisdiction in this case type.

*Only juvenile traffic handled in this court.

Table 16. Juvenile jurisdiction in state trial courts, 1984

Comments: The juvenile case type classifications in this table are those recommended by the National Juvenile Information Systems Task Force of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and adopted by the COSCA Court Statistics and Information Systems Committee. They are defined in the Supplement to the Model Statistical Dictionary.

The Task Force also recommended that caseloads of courts counting juvenile referrals be separated from the caseload of courts counting juvenile petitions. This table indicates both what each court counts as a case and when a disposition is counted for statistical purposes.

This information has been obtained by CSIM staff from the AOC in each state, along with the proper classification of each state's juvenile data into the CSIM case categories.

State/court	Filings are counted		Disposition counted		Criminal-type juvenile petition	Status petition	Child victim petition	Miscellaneous juvenile petition	Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
	At intake or referral	At filing of petition	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile					
ALABAMA									19
Circuit Court		X	X		X	X	X	--	
District Court		X	X		X	X	X	--	
ALASKA									18
Superior Court		X	X		X	X	X	--	
ARIZONA									18
Superior Court		X		X	X	X	X	--	
ARKANSAS									18
County Court	X			X	X	X	X	--	
CALIFORNIA									18
Superior Court		X		X	X	X	X	--	
COLORADO									18
District Court (includes Denver Juvenile Court)		X		X	X	X	X	X	
CONNECTICUT									16
Superior Court	X			X	X	X	X	--	
DELAWARE									18
Family Court		X		X	X	X	X	--	
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA									18
Superior Court	X			X	X	X	X	X	
FLORIDA									18
Circuit Court		X	X		X	X	X	X	
GEORGIA									17
Superior Court and Juvenile Court	X			X	X	X	X	X	
HAWAII									18
Circuit Court	X			X	X	X	X	X	
IDAHO									18
District Court		X	X		X	X	X	--	
ILLINOIS									17
Circuit Court		X	X		X	X	X	X	

X = This court has jurisdiction in this case type.
 -- = This court does not report this category of juvenile case.

Table 16: (continued)

State/court	Filings are counted		Disposition counted		Criminal-type juvenile petition	Status petition	Child victim petition	Miscellaneous juvenile petition	Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
	At intake or referral	At filing of petition	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile					
INDIANA									
Circuit Court and Superior Court		X	X		X	X	X	X	18
Probate Court		X	X		X	X	X	--	
IOWA									
District Court		X		At maturity of juvenile	X	X	X	X	18
KANSAS									
District Court		X		X	X	X	X	--	18
KENTUCKY									
District Court		X	X		X	X	X	X	18
LOUISIANA									
District Court		X	X		X	X	X	X	15 (in capital cases)
Family Court and Juvenile Court		X	X		X	X	X	--	
City Court		X	X		X	X	X	X	
MAINE									
District Court		X		X	X	X	X	--	18
MARYLAND									
Circuit Court		X		X	X	X	X	X	18
District Court		X		X	X	X	X	X	
MASSACHUSETTS									
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:									17
District Court Dept.		X	X		X	X	X	--	
Juvenile Court Dept.	X		X		X	X	X	X	
MICHIGAN									
Probate Court		Unknown		Unknown	X	X	X	--	17
MINNESOTA									
District Court and County Court		X	X		X	X	X	X	18
MISSISSIPPI (no data available)									
MISSOURI									
Circuit Court		X	X		X	X	X	X	17
MONTANA									
District Court		X		X	X	X	X	--	18
NEBRASKA									
Separate Juvenile Court		X		X	X	X	X	X	18
County Court		X		X	X	X	X	X	
NEVADA									
District Court		X		X	X	X	X	X	18
NEW HAMPSHIRE									
District Court		X		X	X	X	X	--	18
NEW JERSEY									
Superior Court, Chancery Division, Family Part	X			X	X	X	X	X	18

X = This court has jurisdiction in this case type.

-- = This court does not report this category of juvenile case.

Table 16: (continued)

State/court	Filings are counted		Disposition counted		Criminal-type juvenile petition	Status petition	Child victim petition	Miscellaneous juvenile petition	Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
	At intake or referral	At filing of petition	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile					
NEW MEXICO									18
District Court		X		X	X	X	X	--	
NEW YORK									16
Family Court		X		X	X	X	X	X	
NORTH CAROLINA				At maturity of juvenile					16
District Court		X			X	X	X	--	
NORTH DAKOTA									18
District Court		X		X	X	X	X	X	
OHIO									18
Court of Common Pleas	X (warrant)			X	X	X	X	X	
OKLAHOMA									18
District Court	X (case number)		X		X	X	X	X	
(does not report data to AOC)									
OREGON									18
Circuit Court		X		At maturity of juvenile	X	X	X	--	
County Court		X			X	X	X	X	
PENNSYLVANIA									18
Court of Common Pleas	X		X		X	X	X	--	
PUERTO RICO									18
Superior Court	X		X		X	X	X	--	
RHODE ISLAND									18
Family Court	X		X		X	X	X	X	
SOUTH CAROLINA									17
Family Court		X	X		X	X	X	X	
SOUTH DAKOTA									18
Circuit Court		X	X		X	X	X	X	
TENNESSEE									18
General Sessions Court	X			X	X	X	X	--	
Juvenile Court	X			X	X	X	X	--	
(does not report data to AOC)									
TEXAS									17
District Court		X		X	X	X	X	--	
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court, and Probate Court		X		X	X	X	X	--	
UTAH									18
Juvenile Court		X		X	X	X	X	X	
VERMONT									16
District Court		X		X	X	X	X	--	
VIRGINIA									18
District Court		X		X	X	X	X	X	
WASHINGTON									18
Superior Court		X	X (dependency)	X (delinquency)	X	X	X	--	

X = This court has jurisdiction in this case type.

-- = This court does not report this category of juvenile case.

Table 16: (continued)

State/court	Filings are counted		Disposition counted		Criminal- type juvenile petition	Status petition	Child victim petition	Miscel- laneous juvenile petition	Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
	At in- take or referral	At filing of petition	At adjudi- cation of petition	At dispo- sition of juvenile					
WEST VIRGINIA Circuit Court		X		X	X	X	X	--	18
WISCONSIN Circuit Court		X		X	X	X	X	X	18
WYOMING District Court		X	X		X	X	X	--	19

X = This court has jurisdiction in this case type.

-- = This court does not report this category of juvenile case.

Table 17. Time standards for civil case processing in state trial courts, 1984

Comments: Time limits within which case processing should or must take place are not of concern in gathering statistics, but were of interest to the members of COSCA at the time the jurisdiction guide was undertaken. Thus questions about time standards were asked of each AOC staff contact.

This table does not attempt to show the time standards now in effect in any detail, but rather gives a general indication of the most important time standard. It does indicate the wide variation in the time standards being followed by the various states.

State/court	Authority/ Source	Penalty for non- compliance	Points in civil case processing				
			Filing of com- plaint	At issue/ note of advise- issue	Under ment	Hear- ing/ trial	Dispo- sition
ALABAMA -- none							
ALASKA -- none							
ARIZONA -- none							
ARKANSAS -- none							
CALIFORNIA -- none							
COLORADO							
District Court	Statute						
Water Court -- none							
County Court -- none							
CONNECTICUT							
Superior Court -- individual							
Probate Court -- none							
DELAWARE -- none							
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA							
Superior Court	Judicial norm	None					<u>3 months to 18 months, depending on case type</u>
FLORIDA -- none							
GEORGIA -- none							
HAWAII							
Circuit Court	Court rule	None					<u>18 months</u>
District Court -- none							
IDAHO	COSCA standards	None					<u>3 months to 18 months, depending on case type</u>
ILLINOIS							
Circuit Court -- none							
INDIANA -- none							
IOWA -- none							
KANSAS							
District Court	Statute	None					<u>From 60 to 120 days, depending on case type</u>
KENTUCKY -- none							
LOUISIANA -- none							
MAINE -- none							
MARYLAND -- none							

Table 17: (continued)

State/court	Authority/ Source	Penalcy for non- compliance	Points in civil case processing			Hear- ing/ trial	Dispo- sition
			Filing of com- plaint	At issue/ issue	Under note of advise- ment		
MASSACHUSETTS							
Superior Court Dept -- none							
Housing Court Dept -- none							
District Court Dept -- none							
Boston Municipal Court Dept -- none							
Land Court Dept -- none							
Probate and Family Court Dept.							Uncontested--30 days, contested--60 days
MICHIGAN							
Circuit Court -- none							
District Court	Statute						Varies depending on case type
Municipal Court -- none							
Probate Court -- none							
MINNESOTA -- none							
MISSISSIPPI -- no data available							
MISSOURI -- none							
MONTANA -- none							
NEBRASKA							
District Court	Standards	None					9 months--dom.rel.; 1 year civil--nonjury; 18 months--civil jury
Workmen's Compensation Court -- none							
County Court	Standards	None					6 months
Municipal Court	Standards	None					6 months
NEVADA -- none							
NEW HAMPSHIRE							
Superior Court	Court rule						12 months
District Court -- none							
Probate Court -- none							
Municipal Court -- none							
NEW JERSEY							
Superior Court Law Division and Chan- cery Division)	Goal	None					3 years
Superior Court Law Division, Special Civil Part -- none							
Surrogate's Court -- none							
NEW MEXICO -- none							
NEW YORK							
Supreme Court	Court rule	Yes					15 months
County Court	Court rule	Yes					15 months
Civil Court of the City of New York -- none							
Family Court	Court rule	Yes					180 days
District Court and City Court -- none							
Surrogates' Court -- none							
Court of Claims -- none							
Town Court and Village Justice Court -- none							
NORTH CAROLINA -- none							

Table 17: (concluded)

State/court	Authority/ Source	Penalty for non- compliance	Points in civil case processing			Hear- ing/ trial	Dispo- sition
			Filing of com- plaint	At issue/ note of issue	Under advise- ment		
NORTH DAKOTA							
District Court	Admin. rule	None	2 years				
County Court -- none							
OHIO							
Court of Common Pleas	Guidelines	None	6 to 24 months, depending on case type				
County Court	Guidelines	None	6 to 24 months, depending on case type				
Municipal Court	Guidelines	None	6 to 24 months, depending on case type				
Court of Claims -- none							
Mayor's Court -- none							
OKLAHOMA -- none							
OREGON -- none							
PENNSYLVANIA							
Court of Common Pleas -- none							
District Justice Court	Court Rule		60 days (in trespass and assumpsit)				
Philadelphia Municipal Court	Court Rule		4 to 6 weeks				
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	Court Rule		60 days				
PUERTO RICO -- none							
RHODE ISLAND							
Superior Court	Goal	None	18 months				
District Court -- none							
Family Court -- none							
Probate Court -- none							
SOUTH CAROLINA							
Circuit Court	Court rule	Yes	1 year				
Family Court	Court rule	Yes	6 months				
Magistrate Court	Admin. order	None	90 days				
Probate Court -- none							
SOUTH DAKOTA							
Circuit Court	Court rule	Yes	1 year				
TENNESSEE -- none							
TEXAS --							
	Supreme Ct. order	None	3 months to 18 months, depending on case type				
UTAH							
District Court	Court rule	Yes	90 days				
Circuit Court	Court rule	Yes	90 days				
Justice of the Peace Court	Court rule	Yes	90 days				
VERMONT							
Superior Court			1 year				
District Court	Goal	No	6 months (for 80 % of cases)				
Probate Court -- none							
VIRGINIA -- none							
WASHINGTON -- none							

Table 17: (continued)

<u>State/court</u>	<u>Authority/ Source</u>	<u>Penalty for non- compliance</u>	<u>Points in civil case processing</u>			<u>Hear- ing/ trial</u>	<u>Dispo- sition</u>
			<u>Filing of com- plaint</u>	<u>At issue/ note of issue</u>	<u>Under advice- ment</u>		
WEST VIRGINIA -- none							
WISCONSIN Circuit Court	Bench/Bar Committee recommendation	None		6 to 18 months, depending on case type			
WYOMING -- none							

NOTE: The time standards in many jurisdictions are quite complex and would be difficult to display in a table like this. This table shows the simplest interpretation of the standard, but does not mean that variations on the length of time shown here do not exist.

Table 18. Time standards for criminal case processing in state trial courts, 1984

Comments: Time limits within which case processing should or must take place are not of concern in gathering statistics, but were of interest to the members of COSCA at the time the jurisdiction guide was undertaken. Thus questions about time standards were asked of each AOC staff contact.

This table does not attempt to show the time standards now in effect in any detail, but rather gives a general indication of the most important time standard for comparison purposes. It does indicate the wide variation in the time standards being followed by the various states.

In some jurisdictions, the events that appear in the heading below may not occur in this order. First appearance and arraignment may be the same event in some jurisdictions, but not in others.

State/court	Authority/ source	Penalty for non- compliance	Points in criminal case processing					Disposition
			Filing of com- plaint	Arrest	First appear- ance	Ar- raign- ment	Prelim. hearing/ bindover	
ALABAMA -- none								
ALASKA								
Superior Court	Court rule	Dismissal					120 days	
District Court	Court rule	Dismissal					120 days	
ARIZONA								
Superior Court	Court rule	Dismissal					90 days (whichever is less)	
Justice of the Peace Ct	Court rule	Dismissal					120 days (whichever is less)	
Municipal Court	Court rule	Dismissal					90 days (whichever is less)	
							120 days (whichever is less)	
ARKANSAS								
Circuit Court	Statute	Dismissal					9 months or 2 terms of court (whichever is less)	
Municipal Court -- none								
City Court, Police Ct. -- none								
CALIFORNIA								
Superior Court	Statute	Dismissal					60 days	
Justice Court	Statute	Dismissal		10 days			15 days	
Municipal Court	Statute	Dismissal					30 days, if in custody; 45 days if not same as Justice Court	
COLORADO								
District Court	Statute	Dismissal					180 days	
County Court	Statute	Dismissal					180 days	
CONNECTICUT								
Superior Court	Statute	Dismissal					18 months (12 months if no bail)	

Table 18: (continued)

State/court	Authority/ source	Penalty for non- compliance	Points in criminal case processing					Disposition/ Trial
			Filing of com- plaint	Arrest	First appear- ance	Ar- raign- ment	Prelim. hearing/ bindover	
DELAWARE								
Superior Court	Goal	None					120 days	
Family Court	Goal	None					120 days	
Justice of the Peace Court of Common Pleas	Unknown Goal	None					120 days	
Municipal Court of Wilmington	Unknown							
Alderman's Court -- none								
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA								
Superior Court	Norm	None					90 days--felony; 60 days--misdemeanor	
FLORIDA								
Circuit Court	Court rule	Dismissal					180 days	
County Court	Court rule	Dismissal					90 days	
GEORGIA								
Superior Court	Statute	Dismissal					Within the term; 2 terms for capital felonies	
State Court -- none								
Probate Court -- none								
Magistrate Court -- none								
Municipal Court -- none								
Civil Court -- none								
Recorder's Court -- none								
HAWAII								
Circuit Court	Statute						1 year	
District Court	Internal	None					90 days	
IDAHO								
District Court	Court rule	Dismissal					6 months	
ILLINOIS								
Circuit Court	Statute	Dismissal					120 days, if in custody; 160 days if on bail	
INDIANA								
Superior Court and Circuit Court	Court rule						70 days	
County Court -- none								
Municipal Court of Marion County -- none								
City Court and Town Court -- none								
IOWA								
District Court	Court rule	Dismissal					90 days	
KANSAS								
District Court	Court rule	None					120 days--felonies; 60 days--misdemeanors	

KENTUCKY

Circuit Court -- none				
District Court	Court Rule	None		<u>10 days (if in custody);</u> <u>20 days (if free on bond)</u>

LOUISIANA

District Court	Court rule	None		<u>60 days--felony, 45 days--misdemeanor</u>
City Court and Parish Court, and Municipal Court and Traffic Court of New Orleans	Informal goal	None		

MAINE -- none

MARYLAND

Circuit Court	Statute	Dismissal		<u>180 days</u>
District Court -- none				

MASSACHUSETTS

Trial Court of the Commonwealth	Court rule	Dismissal		<u>1 year</u>
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MICHIGAN

Circuit Court	Court rule	ROR		<u>felony--6 months (if incarcerated); misdemeanor--30 days</u>
District Court	Court rule	ROR		<u>misdemeanor (if incarcerated)--30 days</u>
Municipal Court	Unknown			

MINNESOTA -- none

MISSISSIPPI -- no data available

MISSOURI

Circuit Court	Court rule	None		as soon as possible after defendant requests trial
---------------	------------	------	--	--

MONTANA

District Court	Court rule			<u>180 days</u>
Justice of the Peace and Municipal Court	Court rule			<u>180 days</u>
City Court	Court rule			<u>180 days</u>

NEBRASKA

District Court	Standards	None		<u>6 months</u>
County Court	Standards	None		<u>60 days in non-jury cases; 6 months in jury cases</u>
Municipal Court	Standards	None		<u>60 days in non-jury cases; 6 months in jury cases</u>

NEVADA

District Court	Court rule			<u>90 days</u>
Justice Court	Unknown			
Municipal Court	Unknown			

Table 18: (continued)

State/court	Authority/ source	Penalty for non- compliance	Points in criminal case processing					Trial	Dispo- sition
			Filing of com- plaint	Arrest	First appear- ance	Ar- raign- ment	Prelim. hearing/ bindover		
NEW HAMPSHIRE									
Superior Court	Court rule	Dismissal			60 days				
District Court	Statute	Dismissal			24 hours		120 days if incarcerated		
Municipal Court	-- none								
NEW JERSEY									
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	Supreme Court Admin. Conf.				60 days		120 days		
Superior Court Law Division, Special Civil Part, Violations Section	-- none								
Municipal Court	None								
NEW MEXICO									
District Court	Statute	Dismissal					6 months		
Magistrate Court	Statute	Dismissal					6 months		
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	Statute	Dismissal					6 months		
NEW YORK									
Supreme Court	Court rule	Dismissal					6 months		
County Court	Court rule	Dismissal					6 months		
Criminal Court of the City of New York	Court rule	Dismissal					6 months		
District Court and City Court	-- none								
Town Court and Village Justice Court	-- none								
NORTH CAROLINA									
Superior Court	Court rule						120 days		
District Court	Court rule						120 days		
NORTH DAKOTA									
District Court	Admin. rule	None					120 days		
County Court	-- none								
Municipal Court	Admin. rule	None					120 days		
OHIO									
Court of Common Pleas	Statute						6 months		
County Court	Statute						6 months		
Municipal Court	Statute						6 months		
Mayor's Court									

OKLAHOMA

District Court	Rule	None	<u>6 months</u>
Municipal Criminal Court of Record and Municipal Court Not of Record -- none			

OREGON -- none

PENNSYLVANIA

Court of Common Pleas	Court rule	Dismissal	<u>180 days</u>
District Justice Court	Guidelines	None	<u>45 days</u>
Phila. Municipal Court	Court rule		<u>120 days</u>
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	Guidelines	None	<u>45 days</u>

PUERTO RICO -- none

RHODE ISLAND

Superior Court	Goal	None	<u>180 days</u>
District Court	Goal	None	<u>30 days, felony</u>
Municipal Court			<u>60 days</u>

SOUTH CAROLINA

Circuit Court	Goal	None	<u>90 days</u>
Magistrate Court	Admin. order	None	<u>60 days ?</u>
Municipal Court	Admin. order	None	<u>60 days ?</u>

SOUTH DAKOTA

Circuit Court	Informal standard	None	<u>? 90 days--misdemeanor; 180 days--felony ?</u>
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TENNESSEE -- none

TEXAS

District Court and Criminal District Court	Statute	Dismissal	<u>120 days--felony, 60-90--misdemeanor</u>
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court, & Probate Ct.	Statute		<u>60-90 days, depending on type of misdemeanor</u>
Municipal Court			<u>60 days</u>
Justice of the Peace Court			<u>60 days</u>

UTAH

District Court	Statute	None	<u>30 days</u>
Circuit Court	Statute	None	<u>30 days</u>
Justice of the Peace Court	Statute	None	<u>30 days</u>

Table 18: (continued)

State/court	Authority/ source	Penalty for non- compliance	Points in criminal case processing						Trial	Dispo- sition
			Filing of com- plaint	Arrest	First appear- ance	Ar- raign- ment	Prelim. hearing/ bindover	Filing of information/ indictment		
VERMONT										
District Court	Goal	None	45 to 180 days, depending on case type							
VIRGINIA										
Circuit Court	Court rule	None	Within 2nd term			5 months				
District Court -- none										
WASHINGTON										
Superior Court	Court rule	Dismissal	60 days, if in detention; 90 if not							
District Court	Court rule		60 days							
Municipal Court	Court rule		60 days							
WEST VIRGINIA -- none										
WISCONSIN										
Circuit Court	Statute	Release from bond conditions	90 days--felony; 60 days, misdemeanor							
WYOMING										
District Court	Court rule	None	90 days, if in custody; 120 days if not							
County Court and Justice of the Peace Court	Court rule	None	90 days, if in custody; 120 days if not							
Municipal Court	Court rule	None	90 days, if in custody; 120 days if not							

Table 19. Time standards for juvenile case processing in state trial courts, 1984

Comments: Time limits within which case processing should or must take place are not of concern in gathering statistics, but were of interest to the members of COSCA at the time the jurisdiction guide was undertaken. Thus questions about time standards were asked of each AOC staff contact.

This table does not attempt to show the time standards now in effect in any detail, but rather gives a general indication of the most important time standard for comparison purposes. It does indicate the wide variation in the time standards being followed by the various states.

<u>State/court</u>	<u>Authority/ source</u>	<u>Penalty for non- compliance</u>	<u>Points in juvenile case processing</u>				<u>Adjudi- cation hearing</u>	<u>Dispo- sition hearing</u>
			<u>Arrest/ deten- tion</u>	<u>Plea hearing</u>	<u>Fact find- ing</u>	<u>Filing of pe- tition</u>		
ALABAMA -- none								
ALASKA -- none								
ARIZONA -- none								
ARKANSAS County Court			<u>96 hours</u>					
CALIFORNIA Superior Court			<u>10 days</u>					
COLORADO District Court	Statute	Dismissal	<u>180 days (delinquency)</u>					
			<u>90 days (neglect)</u>					<u>45 days</u>
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	Guidelines for individual court locations							
DELAWARE -- none								
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior Court	Judicial norm	None	<u>30 days</u>					

Table 19: (continued)

State/court	Authority/ source	Penalty for non- compliance	Points in juvenile case processing				Adjudi- cation hearing	Dispo- sition hearing
			Arrest/ deten- tion	Plea hearing	Fact find- ing	Filing of pe- tition		
FLORIDA Circuit Court							<u>90 days</u>	
GEORGIA Juvenile Court	Statute						<u>10 days, if in detention; 60 days otherwise</u>	
HAWAII Circuit Court	Court rule						<u>15 to 90 days depending on case type</u>	
IDAHO -- none								
ILLINOIS Circuit Court	Statute	Yes					<u>10 days (in detention) 30 days otherwise</u>	
INDIANA -- none								
IOWA -- none								
KANSAS -- none								
KENTUCKY -- none								
LOUISIANA District Court							<u>12 hours</u>	
Family Court and Juvenile Court							<u>72 hours</u>	
City Court and Parish Court	Unknown						<u>60 days</u>	
MAINE -- none								

MARYLAND

Circuit Court Court rule
District Court Court rule

60 days / 30 days
60 days / 30 days

MASSACHUSETTS

Trial Court of the
Commonwealth:
Juvenile Court Dept Court rule Dismissal

1 year (delinquency)

MICHIGAN

Probate Court -- no data

MINNESOTA -- none

MISSISSIPPI -- no data available

MISSOURI -- none

MONTANA

District Court

180 days

NEBRASKA -- none

NEVADA

District Court Statute Dismissal

24 hours

NEW HAMPSHIRE

District Court Statute Yes

Delinquency:
24 hours

21 days, if in custody; 30 days if not

21 days

CHINS:

28 days

30 days

Child victims:
1-7 days

30 days

30 days

NEW JERSEY

Superior Court (Law Division and
Chancery Division)

(Complaint)

30 days

Table 19: (continued)

State/court	Authority/ source	Penalty for non- compliance	Points in juvenile case processing				Adjudi- cation hearing	Dispo- sition hearing
			Arrest/ deter- tion	Plea hearing	Fact find- ing	Filing of pe- tition		
NEW MEXICO District Court	Court rule		<u>30 days, if in detention; 90 days otherwise</u>					
NEW YORK Family Court			<u>(90 days) / 180 days</u>					
NORTH CAROLINA -- none								
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	Statute				<u>10 days, if in custody; 30 days if not</u>			
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	Court rule				<u>3 to 6 months, depending on case type</u>			
OKLAHOMA -- none								
OREGON -- none								
PENNSYLVANIA -- none								
PUERTO RICO -- none								
RHODE ISLAND Family Court	Goal	None	<u>(Referral)</u>		<u>90 days</u>			
SOUTH CAROLINA -- none								
SOUTH DAKOTA -- none								
TENNESSEE -- none								

TEXAS

District Court and
Criminal District Court
County Court at Law,
Constitutional County
Court, and Probate
Court

2 days

2 days

UTAH -- none

VERMONT

District Court Statute Dismissal

47 days, if in detention; 70 days if not

VIRGINIA -- none

WASHINGTON

Superior Court

30-60 days

WEST VIRGINIA -- none

WISCONSIN

Circuit Court

If in custody:

10 days

20 days

10 days

If not in custody:

30 days

30 days

30 days

WYOMING -- none

NOTE: The time standards in many jurisdictions are quite complex and would be difficult to display in a table like this. This table shows the simplest interpretation of the standard, but does not mean that variations on the length of time shown here do not exist.

Appendix A

Prototypes for trial court jurisdiction guide profiles

1 9 8 1
 NAME OF COURT
 Jurisdiction
 Court of record/not of record

Jurisdiction organization: _____

C I V I L C A S E L O A D I N V E N T O R Y

What is the unit of count in civil cases? _____
 When is a civil case filing counted? _____

CSIM case classifications	Is this casetype handled in this court?	What is the terminology this court uses for this case type in its annual report?	What is the dollar range for original (non-appeal) filings? Minimum/maximum	Are jury trials available?	Does the court report contested cases separate from uncontested cases?	Does the court report judicial resolution separate from nonjudicial?	Source/comments
Tort case	_____	_____	/	_____	_____	_____	(1)
Auto tort	_____	_____	/	_____	_____	_____	_____
Professional tort	_____	_____	/	_____	_____	_____	_____
Product liability tort ..	_____	_____	/	_____	_____	_____	_____
Miscellaneous tort	_____	_____	/	_____	_____	_____	_____
Contract case	_____	_____	/	_____	_____	_____	(2)
Real property rights case	_____	_____	/	_____	_____	_____	(3)
Small claims case	_____	_____	/	_____	_____	_____	(4)
Domestic relations case ...	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	(5)
Marriage dissolution	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Support/custody case	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Adoption case	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Paternity and bastardy	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Miscellaneous	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Mental health case	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	(6)
Estate case	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	(7)
Probate/wills/intestate	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Guardianship/conserva-	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
torship/trusteeship	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	AR
Miscellaneous estate	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Appeal case	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	(8)
Administrative agency ...	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Trial court	_____	_____	De novo	_____	From what court(s):	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	On the record	_____	_____	_____	_____
Extraordinary writ case ...	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	(9)
Postconviction remedy case	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	(10)
Miscellaneous civil case ..	_____	_____	/	_____	_____	_____	(11)
_____	_____	_____	/	_____	_____	_____	_____

C I V I L C A S E M A N N E R O F D I S P O S I T I O N

CSIM classification	What terminology is used for this disposition type in this court's annual report?	Source/comments
Jury trial	_____	(12)
Non-jury trial	_____	(13)
Uncontested/default	_____	(14)
Dismissed during trial	_____	(15)
Dismissed/withdrawn/settled (before trial)	_____	(16)
Transferred	_____	(17)
Arbitration	_____	(18)
Other manner of disposition	_____	(19)

Point at which a civil case is counted as disposed _____

Trial definition: _____

Time standard for civil case processing _____

Were there any changes to the above in 1982? If so, what? _____

Were there any changes to the above in 1983? If so, what? _____

Contact person who completed the above _____ Phone number _____

1 9 8 1
NAME OF COURT
Jurisdiction
Court of record/not of record

CRIMINAL CASELOAD INVENTORY

What is the unit of count in criminal cases? _____
When is the filing of a criminal case counted? _____ (e.g., complaint, indictment, information)

CSIM case classifications	Is this casetype handled in this court?	What terminology does this court use for this case type in its annual report?	Are jury trials available?	Source/ comments
Felony case	_____	What is the definition of a felony in this jurisdiction? _____	_____	(1)
Misdemeanor case	_____	_____	_____	(2)
DWI/DUI	_____	(Felony or misdemeanor?) _____	_____	(3)
Appeal case	_____	From what court(s): De novo _____ On the record _____	_____	(5)
Preliminary hearing	_____	_____	_____	(6)
Probable cause	_____	_____	_____	
Evidence suppression	_____	_____	_____	
Other motions	_____	_____	_____	
Extraordinary writ case ...	_____	_____	_____	(7)
Postconviction remedy case	_____	_____	_____	(8)
Sentence review only case	_____	_____	_____	(9)
Miscellaneous criminal case	_____	_____	_____	(10)

CRIMINAL CASE MANNER OF DISPOSITION

CSIM classification	What terminology is used for this disposition type in this court's annual report?	Source/comments
Jury trial	_____	(11)
Conviction (verdict and plea)...	_____	
Guilty plea	_____	
Acquittal	_____	
Dismissed	_____	
Non-jury trial	_____	(12)
Conviction (verdict and plea)...	_____	
Guilty plea	_____	
Acquittal	_____	
Dismissed	_____	
Dismissed (before trial)	_____	(13)
Nolle prosequi	_____	(14)
Bound over	_____	(15)
Transferred	_____	(16)
Diverted	_____	(17)
Guilty plea (before trial)	_____	(18)
Bail forfeiture	_____	(19)
Other manner of disposition	_____	(20)

Trial definition: _____

Point at which criminal case is counted as disposed _____

Does this court use grand juries? _____ If so, under what circumstances? _____

Time standard for criminal case processing _____

Were there any changes to the above in 1982? If so, what? _____

Were there any changes to the above in 1983? If so, what? _____

Contact person who completed the above _____ Phone number _____

1 9 8 1
 NAME OF COURT
 Jurisdiction
 Court of record/not of record

TRAFFIC / OTHER VIOLATIONS INVENTORY

What is the unit of count in traffic/other violations cases? _____
 When is a traffic/other violation filing counted? _____ (e.g., complaint, information indictment,)
 Are contested violation filings reported separately from uncontested violations? _____
 Are contested violation dispositions counted separately from uncontested? _____

CSIM case classifications	Is this casetype handled in this court?	What terminology does this court use for this case type in its annual report?	Does this court separate contested from uncontested cases?	Are jury trials available?	Source/ comments
Moving traffic violation ..	_____	_____	_____	_____	(1)
Parking violation	_____	_____	_____	_____	(2)
Miscellaneous traffic	_____	_____	_____	_____	(3)
Ordinance (non-traffic) violation	_____	_____	_____	_____	(4)

TRAFFIC / OTHER VIOLATIONS MANNER OF DISPOSITION

CSIM classification	What terminology is used for this disposition type in this court's annual report?	Source/comments
Jury trial	_____	(4)
Conviction (verdict and plea)....	_____	
Guilty plea	_____	
Acquittal	_____	
Dismissed	_____	
Non-jury trial	_____	(5)
Conviction (verdict and plea)....	_____	
Guilty plea	_____	
Acquittal	_____	
Dismissed	_____	
Dismissed (before trial)	_____	(6)
Holle prosequi	_____	(7)
Bound over	_____	(8)
Transferred	_____	(9)
Guilty plea (before trial)	_____	(10)
Bail forfeiture	_____	(11)
Payment of fine	_____	(12)
Other manner of disposition	_____	(13)

Trial definition _____

Point at which traffic/other violation case is counted as disposed _____

Were there any changes to the above in 1982? If so, what? _____

Were there any changes to the above in 1983? If so, what? _____

Contact person who completed the above _____ Phone number _____

1981
 NAME OF COURT
 Jurisdiction
 Court of record/not of record

JUVENILE CASELOAD INVENTORY

Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts? _____
 Is juvenile intake administered by this court? _____ or by the Executive Branch _____?

What is the unit of count in juvenile cases? _____
 When is a juvenile case filing counted? _____

CSIM case classifications	Is this casetype handled in this court?	What terminology does this court use for this case type in its annual report?	Source/comments/definitions
Criminal-type juvenile petition	_____	_____	_____ (1)
Status petition	_____	_____	_____ (2)
Child victim petition	_____	_____	_____ (3)
Miscellaneous juvenile	_____	_____	_____ (4)

JUVENILE CASE MANNER OF DISPOSITION

CSIM classification	What terminology is used for this disposition type in this court's annual report?	Source/comments
Dismissed prior to fact finding ...	_____	No data (5)
Dismissed after fact finding begun	_____	_____ (6)
Waiver/certification/transfer for criminal prosecution	_____	_____ (7)
Transfer to other jurisdiction ...	_____	_____ (8)
Petition granted	_____	_____ (9)

Point at which juvenile case is counted as disposed _____

Time standard for juvenile case processing _____

Were there any changes to the above in 1982? If so, what? _____
 Were there any changes to the above in 1983? If so, what? _____

Contact person who completed the above _____ Phone number _____