

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

Relating to

*Oregon*

**JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION**

in

*Annual Report, 1975*

**THE COURTS OF OREGON**



1975

Compiled and published on behalf of the

STATE COURTS OF OREGON

by the Office of

THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

— SUPREME COURT OF OREGON —

**JNC**

*"We cannot use even the best and most scientifically compiled statistics to solve the fundamental problems of jurisprudence. They cannot give us a measure of values of competing claims, or a criterion of justice, or a theory of what we are seeking to bring about by means of law. But it does not follow that we have no use for statistics. On the contrary, the stress which we now put upon the legal order as a process and upon the judicial process as a significant meaning of the term 'law,' and along with the administrative process entitled to a place in the front rank in the science of law, . . . indicates where statistical method is to be made use of. We must learn how to use statistics to control the quality of the output of the operations by which the legal order is maintained and carried on."*

*Pound, Judicial Councils  
and Judicial Statistics,  
28 A.B.A.J. 98 (1942).*

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## INTRODUCTION

The 1953 Oregon Legislature vested administrative authority over the courts of the state in the Oregon Supreme Court and directed these new powers to be exercised through the Chief Justice. The Legislature established the position of Administrative Assistant to the Chief Justice to aid in carrying out these duties. The first assistant, Mr. Jonel C. Hill, developed the system for the reporting of statistics on the circuit court's caseloads that has been used, with some modifications and additions, for the last twenty-two years. These statistics have been published annually since 1954. Over these years the reports have been expanded to encompass additional courts. In 1960, statistics on the work of the district courts were added. Since 1964 there has been a statistical summary of the work of the Oregon Supreme Court. The Oregon Tax Court was added in 1965 and the Oregon Court of Appeals in 1969. The 1973 Legislature directed the Chief Justice to collect and publish statistics on the municipal courts and this data was first published in 1974. This twenty-second volume contains for the first time a statistical summary of the justice courts' caseload.

The tables of this report set forth information on the number and type of cases that were filed, closed, and pending at the end of the year. This basic data show only the barest outline and little of the substance of the work done by Oregon's judges. These statistics do provide, however, several criteria for assessing the condition of the courts.

There are four standards by which the courts may be evaluated in this report. The first of these is the total number of cases filed and terminated, the number of cases filed per judge, and the rate of growth of filings each year. It is important to assess how much work is coming into the courts, how much of it fell to each judge, and how fast the workload is growing.

The second is the number and age of cases pending disposition. All courts have a backlog of cases in various stages of the adjudicative process. The size of the backlog and the age of cases is a good indication of the court's ability to control its caseload. The rate of growth or decline of the pending caseload is also important in assessing workload.

The third criteria for evaluation of the courts is the age of cases tried or decided. Notice that it is the age and **not** the number of cases. No two cases are ever the same and the number in one court or by one judge should not be compared to another's efforts.

An honored maxim of early English law that is often cited to express the right of litigants to an expeditious disposition of their case is that "justice is neither to be denied nor delayed." The length of time from the filing of a case to its disposition by trial or opinion is considered one of the prime standards of judicial efficiency. Two statistical measures of duration are used in this report. The first is the median case and it appears in the tables concerning the Tax Court and the Circuit Courts. The median case establishes the central point of the distribution of cases tried, ranked according to elapsed time, without being influenced by the extreme cases at either end. The second measure is the mean or average case and it appears in the appellate and circuit court tables. The mean case reflects the total time consumed by all cases that were closed by trial or opinion during the year. And, whereas the median is only sensitive to the middle case in a distribution, the mean is sensitive to every case. Each of these statistical measures show something slightly different about the periodic distribution of cases closed by trial in the circuit courts.

Fourth, and finally, an assessment must take into account the amount of temporary help received by a court. It is expected that each court will receive some help each year to cover vacations, illnesses, or disqualifications. The use of large amounts of temporary help, however, may be an indication that the work to be done exceeds the number of available regular judicial manhours and another judicial position may be needed.

In reviewing the work of Oregon's courts the reader is cautioned that there is no one standard of performance or workload in this report that can be used to fairly or accurately evaluate the abilities of the judges. Judges are trained in the law. When they come to the bench it is to exercise this training at its highest level. Few of them have been trained in the administrative sciences, but we expect each to manage their court with all of the efficiency and skill expected of a giant corporation. It is a tribute to their ability that most of them succeed. We must remember, however, that this is not their primary task. The purpose of judicial effort is to achieve quality in our justice. This quality cannot be measured or marshaled, but it must be maintained. If these statistics show heavy filings, large aging backlogs, and long waits until trial, it is not to criticize judicial ability but to point out that help is needed for these are the pressures that will erode away the quality of justice. And, at the other extreme in our search for greater administrative efficiency, we must not sacrifice purpose in the name of process. It would be a Pyrrhic victory. As Professor Maurice Rosenberg has said so clearly, "Slow justice is bad but speedy injustice is not an admissible substitute."

## OFFICE OF THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR . . . . .	Loren D. Hicks
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR . . . . .	Charles E. Gleason
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR . . . . .	Adell Johnson
JUDICIAL ASSIGNMENTS ASSISTANT . . . . .	Esther Baird
DEPUTY, SUPREME COURT . . . . .	Mildred Oldenburg
DEPUTY, COURT OF APPEALS . . . . .	Carol Justis
LEGAL COUNSEL . . . . .	J. David Gernant
COURT INFORMATION OFFICER . . . . .	Robert Gangware
RESEARCH STATISTICIAN . . . . .	Douglas Bray

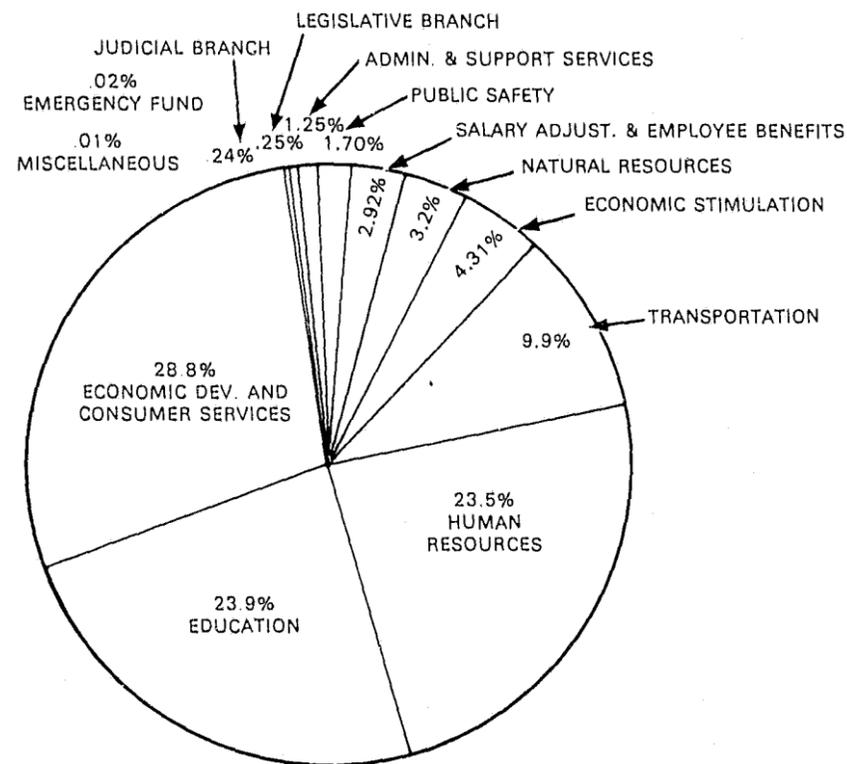
### THE COSTS OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM

The courts of Oregon are financed by a combination of funds appropriated by state, county, and municipal governments. State funds support entirely the Supreme Court, Supreme Court Library, Court of Appeals, Tax Court, and Commission on Judicial Fitness. The Circuit and District Courts are operated with both state and county funds, although judges pro tempore are provided for these trial courts through the state general fund. Municipal and Justice Courts depend entirely upon city and county revenues, respectively, for their operations.

In recent years some federal funds have been granted to the courts. These have been applied principally to judicial education and information systems.

For the 1975-77 biennium budgeted expenditures for the judicial branch amounted to 0.24 percent of all budgeted state expenditures (table below). The final legislatively approved budget for the judicial branch was a slightly lower 0.21 percent or \$11,124,097.

1975-1977 BUDGET EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM  
ALL FUNDS



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND CONSUMER SERVICES	\$1,478,192,561
EDUCATION	1,226,432,918
HUMAN RESOURCES	1,204,039,486
NATURAL RESOURCES	164,381,932
PUBLIC SAFETY	85,238,591
TRANSPORTATION	506,638,633
ADMINISTRATIVE & SUPPORT SERVICES	63,577,948
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH	12,240,590
JUDICIAL BRANCH	11,690,841
SALARY ADJ. & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	149,382,144
EMERGENCY FUND	8,000,000
MISCELLANEOUS	3,952,310
ECONOMIC STIMULATION	219,244,000
TOTAL	\$5,133,011,954

## SUPREME COURT OF OREGON

1975

KENNETH J. O'CONNELL, Chief Justice

WILLIAM M. McALLISTER, Associate Justice

ARNO H. DENECKE, Associate Justice

RALPH M. HOLMAN, Associate Justice

THOMAS H. TONGUE, Associate Justice

EDWARD H. HOWELL, Associate Justice

DEAN BRYSON, Associate Justice

**DOCKET OF THE OREGON SUPREME COURT  
1975**

**Overall**

The cumulative data for 1975 show the following increases over the 1974 caseload. Appeals filed, including circuit court, Tax Court, Bar proceedings, and original proceedings, increased eighteen percent, from 379 to 449 cases. Petitions for review increased five percent, from 288 to 301 petitions. The number of petitions allowed by the court decreased thirty percent, from 33 to 23.

The number of appeals and cases terminated increased by 45 cases, or twelve percent. The number of petitions for review terminated decreased six percent, from 300 to 282.

The number of cases pending at the end of 1975 was nineteen percent higher than the number pending at the end of 1974, up from 250 to 298. The number of petitions for review pending at the conclusion of 1975 increased to 37 petitions.

**Appeals Filed**

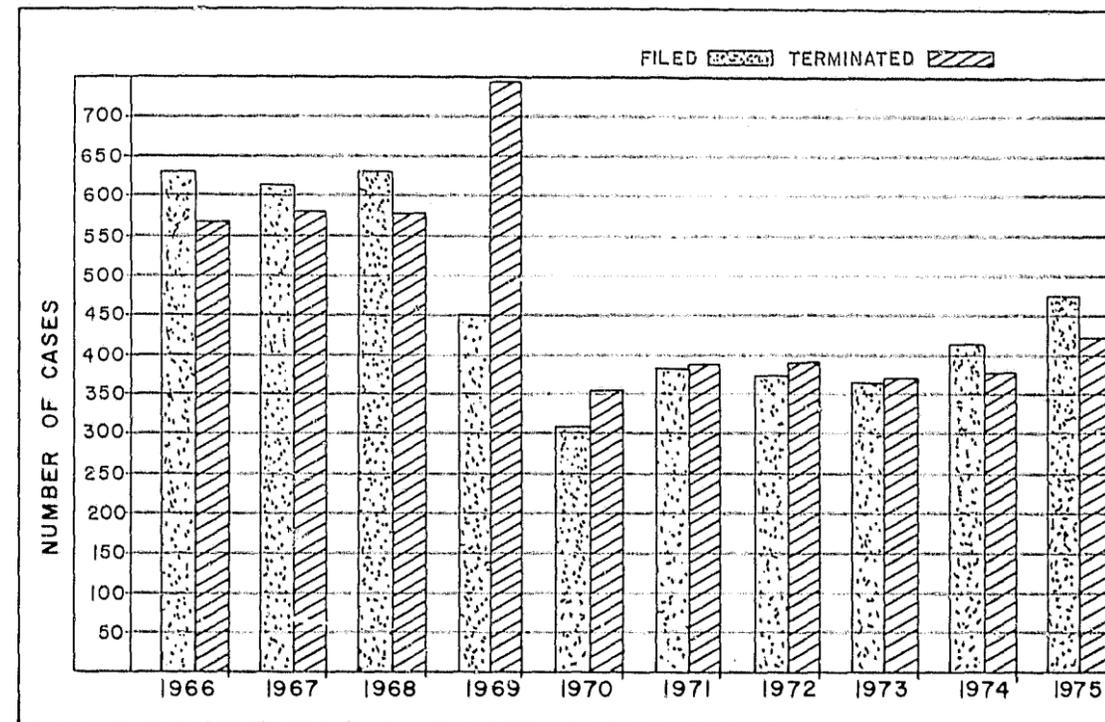
The following tables and graph show an analysis of cases filed in the Supreme Court from 1966 to 1975.

**CASES FILED AND TERMINATED  
1966 to 1975**

Year	Cases Filed (a)	Cases Terminated	Cases Pending
1966	628	565	470
1967 (c)	612	577	505
1968 (d)	629	576	558
1969	450	747 (e)	288
1970	307	352	243
1971	381	387	237
1972	374	389	222
1973	365	370	217
1974 (f)	412	379	250
1975	472	424	298

(a) Includes petitions for review allowed by the Supreme Court since the establishment of the Court of Appeals, July, 1969.  
 (b) In 1966 circuit judges served a total of seven months as justices pro tempore of the Supreme Court.  
 (c) In 1967 circuit judges served a total of thirteen months as justices pro tempore of the Supreme Court.  
 (d) In 1968 circuit judges served a total of fourteen months as justices pro tempore of the Supreme Court.  
 (e) Includes 333 cases transferred to Court of Appeals.  
 (f) In 1974 circuit court judges served a total of 121 days as justices pro tempore of the Supreme Court.

**SUPREME COURT  
CASES FILED AND TERMINATED  
1966 - 1975**



**SOURCE OF SUPREME COURT CASES FILED IN 1975  
APPEALS FROM CIRCUIT COURT**

Baker	0	Harney	1	Morrow	2	
Benton	11	Hood River	4	Multnomah	138	
Clackamas	15	Jackson	15	Polk	10	
Clatsop	6	Jefferson	4	Sherman	1	
Columbia	2	Josephine	8	Tillamook	0	
Coos	7	Klamath	6	Umatilla	5	
Crook	4	Lake	1	Union	2	
Curry	2	Lane	44	Wallowa	1	
Deschutes	7	Lincoln	5	Wasco	4	
Douglas	15	Linn	13	Washington	20	
Gilliam	0	Malheur	6	Wheeler	0	
Grant	3	Marion	27	Yamhill	3	
					<b>Total Appeals from Circuit Court</b>	<b>392</b>

**OTHER CASES**

Original Proceedings	37
Tax Court Appeals	13
Bar Proceedings	7
Court of Appeals Review Allowed	23
<b>Total Cases</b>	<b>472</b>

The following table shows the relationship between the number of cases closed by trial in the circuit courts and the number of cases filed in the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. The ratio of cases tried to cases filed was 6.7 trials for each case appealed in 1966. That ratio had decreased to 3.3 trials for every case appealed in 1975.

Many of the cases filed in the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals, however, are not coming from the circuit courts, but from state agencies, the Oregon Tax Court, the Oregon State Bar and those areas where the Supreme Court has discretionary original jurisdiction. The ratio, therefore, is not a statement of the percentage of cases tried in the circuit courts that are appealed to the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. The ratio is merely and indicator of activity.

**THE RATIO BETWEEN THE NUMBER OF CASES TRIED IN THE CIRCUIT COURTS AND THE NUMBER OF CASES APPEALED TO THE SUPREME COURT AND COURT OF APPEALS**

Year	Cases tried in Circuit Courts	Cases Appealed Court of Appeals	Cases Appealed <sup>1</sup> Supreme Court	Ratio of Cases Tried to Appeals
1966	4,086	—	604	6.76:1
1967	4,165	—	590	7.06:1
1968	3,788	—	612	6.19:1
1969	4,068	266 (6 months)	450	5.68:1
1970	4,476	561	294	5.24:1
1971	5,148	621	363	5.23:1
1972	5,540	766	353	4.95:1
1973	5,515	843	347	4.63:1
1974	5,468	1,046	379	3.84:1
1975	6,510	1,539	449	3.27:1

<sup>1</sup> Does not include petitions for review allowed by the Supreme Court.

**Cases Terminated**

The regular members of the Supreme Court closed 42 more cases by opinion in 1975. Considering the total number of opinions written in 1975, the Court closed 26 more cases by opinion than the previous year. The number of cases terminated in 1975 increased by 45. Sixty-four percent of the cases were terminated by opinion, thirty-three percent were closed by dismissal or transfer, and three percent were closed by consolidation or without opinion.

**METHOD BY WHICH APPEALS TERMINATED  
1966 - 1975**

Year	Decided on the merits by opinions written by regular judges <sup>1</sup>	Decided on the merits by opinions written by pro tempore judges	Dismissed or otherwise disposed of without opinions	Total	Percentage of Total Terminations Decided on the Merits by Opinion
1966	253	53	259	565	54.2
1967	244	61	272	577	52.9
1968	271	74	231	576	60.0
1969	225	26	496 (a)	747	33.6
1970	211	1	140	352	60.2
1971	229	2	156	387	59.7
1972	244	0	145	389	62.7
1973	239	0	131	370	64.6
1974	230	17	132	379	65.2
1975	272	1	151	424	64.3

(1) Includes per curiam opinions.

(a) Includes 33 cases transferred to Court of Appeals.

**DISPOSITION OF CASES DECIDED BY WRITTEN OPINION  
1966 - 1975**

Year	Affirmed	Reversed	Modified	Dismissed	Misc.*	Total
1966	201	81	9	6	9	306
1967	196	84	16	5	4	305
1968	222	92	18	4	9	345
1969	155	73	14	4	5	251
1970	116	69	11	4	12	212
1971	138	56	20	4	13	231
1972	153	60	15	1	18	244
1973	154	58	17	1	9	239
1974	141	75	18	2	11	247
1975	143	78	33	4	14	273

\* Includes mandamus and other original proceedings and bar proceedings.

**Cases Filed, Terminated and Terminated by Opinion Per Judge**

The following table displays the number of cases filed, terminated and terminated by opinion per judge for the ten year period 1966-1975. The number of judges has been calculated to include pro tempore assistance received during each year. The number of cases filed, terminated and terminated by opinion per judge each year was then calculated using this statistic.

**CASES FILED, TERMINATED AND TERMINATED BY OPINION  
PER JUDGE  
1966 - 1975**

Year	No. of Judges <sup>1</sup>	Cases Filed per Judge	Cases Terminated per Judge	Opinions on the Merits per Judge
1966	7.83	80.2	72.2	39.1
1967	8.57	71.4	67.3	35.6
1968	8.69	72.4	66.3	39.7
1969	7.00	64.3	106.7 (a)	35.9
1970	7.00	43.9	50.3	30.3
1971	7.00	54.4	55.3	33.6
1972	7.00	53.4	55.6	34.9
1973	7.00	52.1	52.9	34.1
1974	7.18	57.4	52.8	34.4
1975	7.00	63.5	57.1	38.9

(1) Includes protempore judges.  
(a) 333 cases transferred to the Court of Appeals.

This table does not reflect the number of petitions for review of Court of Appeals opinions filed each year since 1969. This data, shown in following tables, represents another significant part of the Supreme Court's workload.

**Cases Pending**

The following table shows an analysis of cases pending in the Oregon Supreme Court at the conclusion of 1974 and 1975. The total number of cases pending at the end of 1975 was nineteen percent higher than 1974. This increase in pending cases is the natural result of an eighteen percent increase in filings.

**CASES PENDING DECEMBER 31  
1974 - 1975**

Case Status	1974	Percent	1975	Percent	Percent Increase (Decreased)
Under Advisement	42	17	38	13	(10)
At Issue	34	13	49	16	44
Not At Issue	<u>174</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>211</u>	<u>71</u>	21
	250	100	298	100	19

The cases classified as "under advisement" have proceeded through briefing and argument and are in the opinion preparation process. The Court has managed to decrease the number of cases under advisement at the conclusion of 1975 notwithstanding the submission to the Court of 271 cases, a fourteen percent increase from the 237 submitted in 1974.

Cases are "at issue" following the submission of legal briefs on the issues to be decided by the Court. It has been the policy of the Court, for the past several years, to set cases for argument by projecting the date it will be at issue and then setting it on the next docket of cases for argument. Using this method, most cases are argued within one month from the day they reach at issue. By hearing cases at the earliest possible time the Court is able to keep the list of those awaiting argument small and to spare the litigants unnecessary delay. This policy, however, commits the court to constantly increase its monthly docket of arguments to accommodate the rising number of appeals.

Cases "not at issue" are in the process of being prepared for submission to the Court. This time is devoted to the preparation and filing of transcripts and briefs. This work is done by counsel for the parties, but the Court seeks to prevent any undue delay by the attorneys in preparing the cases for submission. The average age of cases not at issue from filing to the conclusion of 1975 was 4.5 months.

**Time Lapse Analysis**

The Supreme Court has achieved a total average time from filing of cases to decision of 297 days for cases decided during 1975. This total average time may be broken down between filing to at issue and at issue to decision. The average time from filing to at issue is 187 days for the year. The average time from at issue to decision is 109 days. Cases decided in 1975 took sixty-three percent of the total time to reach at issue. This means that well over one half the time required to appeal a case to the Supreme Court is devoted to the preparation and filing of the transcript of testimony, the preparation and filing of the briefs, and the other details necessary to make the case ready for hearing.

**AVERAGE TIME ELAPSING FROM FILING OF NOTICE OF APPEAL  
UNTIL CASE WAS AT ISSUE IN THE SUPREME COURT  
AND UNTIL CASE WAS FINALLY DECIDED\***

Year	From notice of appeal to date case at issue Average Days	From date case at issue to final decision Average Days	Total Time for Appeal Average Days
1966	238	122	360
1967	243	161	404
1968	246	172	418
1969	252	221	473
1970	257	211	468
1971	230	152	382
1972	211	130	341
1973	218	126	344
1974	177	140	317
1975	187	109	297

\* Includes only cases decided on the merits by written opinion.

The table shows that the reduction in the amount of time required to move a case from filing to decision in 1975 has come from the Court's efforts to dispose of submitted cases as quickly as possible. This reduction in time from "at issue to decision" plus the reduction in the number of cases currently under advisement are good indicators of the Court's present efficiency.

Historical evidence demonstrates how far the Court has come in reducing delay. Twenty years ago delay was measured in terms of the amount of time from at issue until date of argument. This time was calculated from the time of filing of the appellant's reply brief, or, if none was filed, upon expiration of the time allowed by the Court's rules for such filing, and ran until the case was actually submitted to the Court upon argument or briefs. This measure of delay assumed that the Court had no control of the case until the attorneys had prepared the case for submission, and no control after the case was submitted because individual productivity and the complexities of each case controlled the length of time from submission to decision. The time interval between ready for argument and submission was the measure of delay and in 1955 it was 279 days.

Ten years later, in 1965, the scope of time was enlarged to include all time from filing of the appeal to the decision. This change in measurement reflects a recognition by the Court that it was responsible for the prevention of undue delay through the entire appellate process from filing to decision. In 1965 the average time from filing to at issue was 243 days, from at issue to decision it was 124 days, 367 days in total. The change over this ten year period since 1955 is remarkable. Cases, on the average, took from filing to at issue less time than had been necessary in 1955 to move from at issue to argument.

Now, ten years later again, the Court has been able to reduce the total time from filing to decision to 297 days, only 18 days longer than it took to go from at issue to submission in 1955.

#### Petitions for Review

Filings of petitions for review increased four percent over the 1974 level. The following table shows the history of petition for review filings compared to cases terminated by opinion in the Court of Appeals. The data given for the Court of Appeals cases does not include cases terminated by dismissal or by consolidation. It is assumed that cases terminated by dismissal will not seek Supreme Court review of the order of dismissal. And, cases consolidated for appeal to the Court of Appeals are, by virtue of the single opinion, filed on petition for review as a single review. The exclusion of cases closed by consolidation does not, however, exclude those cases decided by the Court of Appeals that give rise to multiple petitions. A few cases have resulted in two or more petitions for review being filed in the Supreme Court. The inclusion of these multiple petitions arising from a single opinion has a small inflationary effect on the rate of filing of petitions.

The table shows that petitions, when expressed as a percentage of cases closed by opinion in the Court of Appeals, increased from forty percent in 1970 to fifty percent in 1974. The years 1973 and 1975, however, show decreases spacing the increases from 1970 to 1972 and 1974. These decreases indicate that the number of petitions for review filed during a year is not directly controlled by the number of cases closed by opinion in the Court of Appeals. Other independent variables are also influencing the rate of filing.

#### ANALYSIS OF PETITIONS FOR REVIEW AS A PERCENTAGE OF CASES CLOSED BY OPINION IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

Year	Court of Appeals Opinions	Petitions for Review	Percent
1969	84	8	09.52
1970	349	138	39.54
1971	468	195	41.67
1972	557	254	45.60
1973	560	206	36.79
1974	575	288	50.09
1975	834	301	36.09

Petitions for review of criminal cases dominated the 1975 filings. The following table shows an analysis of petitions filed by subject matter.

#### ANALYSIS OF SUBJECT MATTER OF PETITIONS FILED IN 1975

Type	Number	Percent
Civil	79	26.25
Criminal	165	54.82
Workmen's Compensation	16	05.31
Habeas Corpus and Post Conviction	7	02.32
Judicial Review	34	11.30
	301	100.00

The following table shows the disposition of petitions for review filed in the Supreme Court since 1969. By rule of the Court these petitions must be filed in the Supreme Court within thirty days following the Court of Appeals decision. After the petition is filed, the Court of Appeals is allowed ten days to reconsider its decision. At the conclusion of the ten day period or upon earlier notification that the Court of Appeals does not intend to modify its decision, the case is assigned to a Supreme Court justice for preparation of a memorandum on the merits of the petition. The memorandum includes a recommendation to grant or deny the petition. Petitions are granted only if three of the justices concur in the action. If a petition is granted it then proceeds through oral argument and the opinion writing process.

#### DISPOSITIONS OF PETITIONS FOR REVIEW FILED IN THE SUPREME COURT

Year	Filed	Granted	Denied	Pending at end of year
1969	8	0	3	.5
1970	138	13	125	5
1971	195	17	170	13
1972	254	21	226	20
1973	206	18	178	30
1974	288	33	267	18
1975	301	23*	259	37

\* The Supreme Court allowed nine civil cases, ten criminal cases, two workmen's compensation cases, one habeas corpus case, and one administrative review case.

#### Admissions to the Oregon State Bar

The Oregon Supreme Court oversees the administration of the examination given each year to applicants for membership in the Oregon State Bar. The following table shows an analysis of the results of the Oregon Bar Examination for each of the years 1970-1975. Student applicants are required to take both the Multi-State Bar Examination and an essay examination. Attorney applicants take only the Multi-State Bar Examination.

#### ANALYSIS OF OREGON BAR EXAMINATION RESULTS 1970 - 1975

Year	Student Applicants	Number Passing	Percentage Passing	Attorney Applicants	Number Passing	Percentage Passing	All Applicants	Number Passing	Percentage Passing
1970	222	160	72.0	11	9	81.8	235	169	71.9
1971	283	199	70.0	14	11	78.6	300	213	71.0
1972	346	310	89.6	19	18	94.7	367	330	89.9
1973	445	372	83.6	20	17	85.0	466	390	83.7
1974	472	368	78.0	17	14	82.3	492	383	77.8
1975	497	419	84.3	29	19	65.5	527	438	83.1

This table clearly shows the increasing number of successful applicants each year. This increase produces an annual net increase in active memberships in the Oregon State Bar. The following table presents an analysis of the active membership compared to the population of the State of Oregon and displays an attorney-population ratio for the years 1970-1975. The data show that the membership rate of growth is greater than the population rate of growth and results in a decreasing ratio between these two numbers. This decreasing ratio is a general indication of an increasing availability of legal services. This increasing availability has as a concomitant an increasing demand on the state's judicial resources.

**RATIO BETWEEN ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP  
IN THE OREGON STATE BAR AND POPULATION  
OF THE STATE OF OREGON**

Year	Active OSB Membership <sup>1</sup>	Population of Oregon <sup>2</sup>	Membership- Population Ratio
1970	3,196	2,094,997	1:665.5
1971	3,305	2,143,010	1:648.4
1972	3,430	2,183,270	1:636.5
1973	3,684	2,224,900	1:603.9
1974	4,027	2,256,000	1:560.2
1975	4,303	2,299,000	1:534.3

(1) Source of data: 1975 Committee Reports, Oregon State Bar. The average rate of increase in active membership from 1970 to 1975 was six percent.

(2) Source of data: Center for Population Research and Census, Portland State University.

## COURT OF APPEALS

HERBERT M. SCHWAB, Chief Judge

VIRGIL LANGTRY, Associate Judge

ROBERT H. FOLEY, Associate Judge

WILLIAM S. FORT, Associate Judge

ROBERT Y. THORNTON, Associate Judge

JASON LEE, Associate Judge

**DOCKET OF THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS  
1975**

**Overall**

The cumulative data for 1975 show the following increases. The number of filings in the Court of Appeals increased forty-seven percent, from 1,046 cases to 1,539 cases. The Court of Appeals increased terminations by forty percent, from 929 to 1,299 over the one-year period. The total number of cases pending disposition at the end of 1975 was fifty-six percent higher than the number pending at the end of 1974, from 429 to 669 cases.

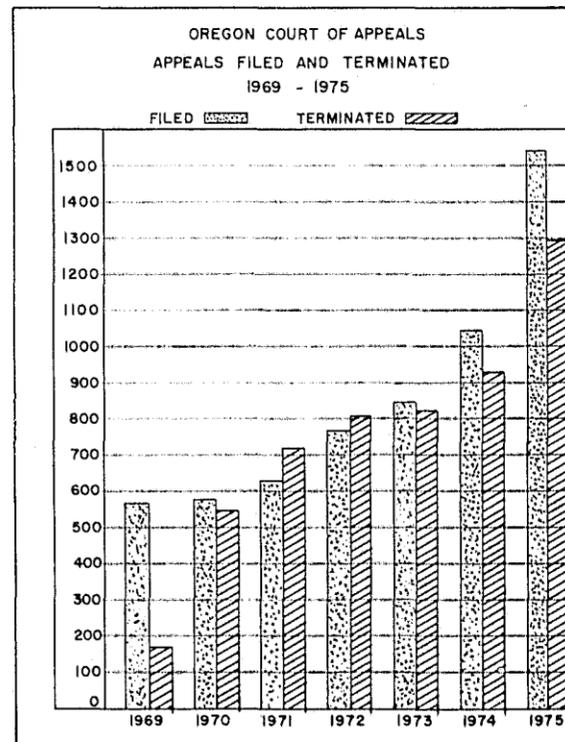
**Appeals Filed**

The number of appeals filed each year in the Court of Appeals has increased at an average annual rate of twenty-two percent since 1970. This rate of growth may be expected to continue into the succeeding year.

**APPEALS FILED AND TERMINATED  
1969 - 1975**

Year	Appeals Filed	Appeals Terminated	Appeals Pending
1969	563*	168	395
1970	577	546	426
1971	622	719	329
1972	766	804	291
1973	843	322	312
1974	1,046	929	429
1975	1,539	1,299	669

\* Includes 333 cases transferred from the Supreme Court.



The following table shows the number of cases filed and the percentage of total filings by type of cases for the years 1974 and 1975:

**ANALYSIS OF CASES FILED  
1974 - 1975**

Type of Case	1974	Percent	1975	Percent
Civil	262	25.05	322	20.92
Criminal	425	40.63	704	45.74
Workmen's Compensation	73	06.98	65	4.22
Post Conviction & Habeas Corpus	27	02.58	56	3.64
Administrative Agency Review	103	09.85	145	9.43
Corrections Disciplinary Review	116	11.09	194	12.61
Parole Board Review	40	3.82	53	3.44
	<u>1,046</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>1,539</u>	<u>100.00</u>

**SOURCE OF COURT OF APPEALS CASES  
FILED IN 1975**

**Appeals from Circuit Courts**

County	Civil	Criminal	Total	County	Civil	Criminal	Total
Baker	4	7	11	Lake	0	1	1
Benton	8	10	18	Lane	33	125	158
Clackamas	30	13	43	Lincoln	4	8	12
Clatsop	7	14	21	Linn	17	36	53
Columbia	5	7	12	Malheur	2	7	9
Coos	5	25	30	Marion	90	34	124
Crook	1	2	3	Morrow	0	0	0
Curry	0	3	3	Multnomah	130	266	396
Deschutes	4	14	18	Polk	10	8	18
Douglas	8	21	29	Sherman	0	0	0
Gilliam	0	0	0	Tillamook	2	7	9
Grant	1	1	2	Umatilla	0	5	5
Harney	2	1	3	Union	2	3	5
Hood River	2	2	4	Wallowa	1	1	2
Jackson	14	20	34	Wasco	3	6	9
Jefferson	1	1	2	Washington	31	35	66
Josephine	7	8	15	Wheeler	0	1	1
Klamath	12	9	21	Yamhill	7	3	10
				<u>Total Appeals from Circuit Courts</u>	<u>443</u>	<u>704</u>	<u>1,147</u>

**Other Appeals**

Administrative Review	145
Parole Board Review	53
Corrections Disciplinary Review	194
<u>Total Appeals Filed</u>	<u>1,539</u>

### Cases Terminated

During 1975 sixty-seven percent of the cases were terminated by decision or consolidation and thirty-three percent by dismissal or transfer. To keep pace with its rapidly growing caseload, the court has developed some alternative means for disposing of cases on the merits without having to write a full opinion in each case.

In many situations the Court of Appeals announces decisions from the bench. These decisions are given orally from the bench at the time the case is argued. The court also issues memorandum opinions. These opinions are brief and generally only cite a controlling case and give the decision of the court. The following table sets forth the method of disposition of all cases terminated since 1969.

#### METHOD BY WHICH APPEALS TERMINATED 1969 - 1975

Year	Decisions by Opinion	Memorandum Decisions	Bench Decisions	Consolidation	Dismissed or Transferred	Total	Percentage of Total Terminations Closed by Decision or Consolidation
1969 (6 mo.)	84	0	0	6	78	168	53.6
1970	335	13	0	42	156	546	71.4
1971	338	130	0	58	193	719	73.2
1972	401	12	144	55	192	804	76.1
1973	393	13	154	34	228	822	72.3
1974	416	14	145	33	321	929	65.4
1975	506	46	282	43	421	1,299	67.5

#### DISPOSITION OF APPEALS DECIDED ON THE MERITS 1969 - 1975

Year	Affirmed	Reversed	Modified	Dismissed	Misc.	Total
1969 (6 mo.)	62	17	4	1	0	84
1970	263	69	12	4	0	348
1971	367	72	22	3	4	468
1972	415	114	22	5	1	557
1973	438	95	22	5	0	560
1974	417	120	29	8	1	575
1975	625	114	56	5	4	834

#### CASES FILED, TERMINATED AND TERMINATED BY OPINION PER JUDGE 1969 - 1975

Year	No. of Judges	Cases Filed Per Judge	Cases Terminated Per Judge	Opinions on the Merits Per Judge
1969 (6 mo.)	5	112.6	33.6	16.8
1970	5	115.4	109.2	69.6
1971	5	124.4	143.8	93.6
1972	5	153.2	160.8	111.4
1973	5.25 <sup>a</sup>	160.6	156.6	106.7
1974	6	174.3	154.8	95.8
1975	6	256.5	216.5	139.0

(1) Includes written opinions and decisions from the bench. Does not include cases closed by consolidation.

(a) A sixth judge was added to the court in October, 1973.

#### Average Time Frames

The Court of Appeals has managed its burgeoning caseload, growing at an average rate of twenty-two percent per year, by establishing effective administrative procedures for processing cases from filing to disposition. Continuances of filing dates for transcripts or briefs are discouraged. Inactive cases are dismissed by the court on a daily basis. Active cases are set on the docket for argument at the earliest possible time. This policy of strict caseload management has allowed the court each year to reduce the amount of time consumed on the average from filing the notice of appeal to decision. During 1975 the average time from filing to at issue (ready for argument) was 125 days. The use of bench and memorandum opinions has helped to keep the average time from at issue to decision down to 40 days. This average of 165 days from filing to decision is made up of both civil and criminal cases. The average elapsed time from filing to decision in criminal cases is 158 days and in civil cases is 170 days.

#### AVERAGE TIME ELAPSING FROM FILING OF NOTICE OF APPEAL UNTIL CASE WAS AT ISSUE AND UNTIL CASE WAS FINALLY DECIDED 1969 - 1975

Year	From notice of appeal to date case at issue Average Days	From date case at issue to final decision Average Days	Total Time for Appeal Average Days
1969	--	--	--
1970	267	103	370
1971	197	71	268
1972	142	64	206
1973	137	39	176
1974	123	46	169
1975	125	40	165

**Cases Pending**

The following table shows a comparative analysis of cases pending at the conclusion of 1974 and 1975:

<b>CASES PENDING 1974 - 1975</b>				
<b>Case Status</b>	<b>1974</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>1975</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Under Advisement	45	10.48	61	09.12
At Issue	21	04.90	61	09.12
Not At Issue	<u>363</u>	<u>84.62</u>	<u>547</u>	<u>81.76</u>
	429	100.00	669	100.00

In 1975 the court heard oral arguments for 790 cases and another ninety cases were submitted to it on the record and attorney's briefs. These 880 cases taken under advisement in 1975 is a forty-nine percent increase over the 591 cases submitted in 1974. It is an indication of remarkable efficiency that the court has been able to increase by half the number of cases submitted for a decision and at the same time reduce the average amount of time it has taken to render a decision without incurring an unmanageable backlog of cases under advisement.

The total number of cases pending at the end of 1975 was fifty-six percent higher than 1974. Eighty-two percent of the pending caseload was not at issue. There was a large increase in the actual number of cases not at issue, 184 more than one year ago. And, while this is a great increase, an analysis of the cases shows them to be quite young in terms of the number of months from filing to the end of December, 1975. Seventy-five percent of these cases were filed in the months of October, November and December, 1975. The average age in months of cases not at issue was 2.20 months.

# TAX COURT

CARLISLE B. ROBERTS, Judge

State Library Building  
Salem, Oregon

**THE OREGON TAX COURT  
1975**

The Oregon Tax Court hears cases that are either appeals from the county boards of equalization (in the case of Small Claims property tax cases) or appeals from decisions of the Oregon Department of Revenue. The caseload of the Oregon Tax Court fluctuates from year to year. The caseload is regulated somewhat by the number of appeals before the Department of Revenue.

**TAX COURT  
REGULAR DIVISION  
CASES FILED AND TERMINATED  
1966 - 1975**

Year	Cases Filed	Cases Terminated	Cases Pending
1966	79	50	41
1967	54	69	26
1968	56	60	22
1969	84	72	34
1970	78	53	59
1971	96	90	65
1972	66	74	57
1973	126	81	102
1974	73	113	62
1975	84	85	61

**METHOD BY WHICH CASES TERMINATED  
1966 - 1975**

Year	On the Merits	Dismissed or Settled
1966	38	12
1967	46	23
1968	46	14
1969	66	6
1970	43	10
1971	61	29
1972	41	33
1973	33	48
1974	62	51
1975	59	27

**AGE OF MEDIAN CASE TERMINATED  
1966 - 1975**

Year	Months
1966	5
1967	6
1968	5
1969	4
1970	5
1971	11
1972	9
1973	10
1974	11
1975	11

**TAX COURT  
SMALL CLAIMS DIVISION  
CASES FILED AND TERMINATED  
1966 - 1975**

Year	Cases Filed	Cases Terminated	Cases Pending
1966	34	32	8
1967	57	50	15
1968	75	76	14
1969	106	110	10
1970	124	46	88
1971	93	120	61
1972	109	102	68
1973	97	104	61
1974	75	102	34
1975	148 (a)	60	122

(a) Includes 60 cases filed by one taxpayer.

**AGE OF MEDIAN CASE TERMINATED  
1966 - 1975**

Year	Months
1966	4
1967	3
1968	3
1969	2
1970	4
1971	7
1972	6.5
1973	7.5
1974	7.5
1975	7

# CIRCUIT COURTS

JUDICIAL DISTRICTS, THEIR COUNTIES, JURISDICTION  
AND JUDGES, WITH POPULATION PER JUDGE  
As of December 31, 1975

Judicial District	County	County Seat	Circuit Judge <sup>1</sup>	Population Per Judge Per District <sup>2</sup>
First	Jackson	Medford	Mitchell Karaman James M. Main Loren L. Sawyer	39,075
	Josephine	Grants Pass	Samuel M. Bowe	
Second	Lane	Eugene	Edwin E. Allen William A. Beckett (New judgeship created October 1, 1975) F. Gordon Cottrell Helen J. Frye Edward Leavy Roland K. Rodman Douglas R. Spencer	38,688
Third	Marion	Salem	Richard D. Barber Thomas C. Enright (assumed office October 1, 1975) Duane R. Ertsgaard Joseph B. Felton (retired October 1, 1975) Jena V. Schlegel Val D. Sloper	33,380
Fourth	Multnomah	Portland	John C. Beatty, Jr. Richard J. Burke Charles S. Crookham William M. Dale, Jr. Alan F. Davis Mercedes F. Deiz Pat Dooley James R. Ellis Robert E. Jones Berkeley Lent Harlow F. Lenon Jean L. Lewis William S. McLennan John J. Murchison Clifford B. Olsen Phillip J. Roth Alfred T. Sulmonetti George A. Van Hoomissen	30,439

## CIRCUIT COURTS

JUDICIAL DISTRICTS, THEIR COUNTIES, JURISDICTION  
AND JUDGES, WITH POPULATION PER JUDGE - Continued  
As of December 31, 1975

Judicial District	County	County Seat	Circuit Judge <sup>1</sup>	Population Per Judge Per District <sup>2</sup>
Fifth	Clackamas	Oregon City	Howard J. Blanding Winston L. Bradshaw Patrick D. Gilroy Dale A. Jacobs	50,725
Sixth	Morrow (a) Umatilla	Heppner Pendleton	Henry Kaye William W. Wells	26,695
Seventh	Hood River Sherman (b) Wasco	Hood River Moro The Dalles	John A. Jelderks	36,720
Eighth	Baker	Baker	Lyle R. Wolff	15,700
Ninth	Harney (b) Malheur (c)	Burns Vale	Jeff D. Dorroh	31,550
Tenth	Union	LaGrande	Wesley F. Brownton (retired January 5, 1975) Warner V. Wasley (assumed office January 6, 1975)	28,880
	Wallowa (d)	Enterprise		
Eleventh	Crook (a) Deschutes	Prineville Bend	John M. Copenhaver Walter I. Edmonds, Jr. (new judgeship created October 1, 1975)	
	Gilliam (b) Grant (c) Jefferson (a) Wheeler (b)	Condon Canyon City Madras Fossil	J.R. Campbell	32,578
Twelfth	Polk Yamhill	Dallas McMinnville	Darrell J. Williams Kurt C. Rossman	42,750
Thirteenth	Klamath	Klamath Falls	Theodore D. Abram (assumed office December 2, 1975) Donald A.W. Piper L. Orth Sisemore (resigned October 31, 1975)	27,200
Fourteenth	Lake	Lakeview	Charles H. Foster	6,560

## CIRCUIT COURTS

JUDICIAL DISTRICTS, THEIR COUNTIES, JURISDICTION  
AND JUDGES, WITH POPULATION PER JUDGE - Continued  
As of December 31, 1975

Judicial District	County	County Seat	Circuit Judge <sup>1</sup>	Population Per Judge Per District <sup>2</sup>
Fifteenth	Coos	Coquille	James A. Norman John C. Warden	
	Curry	Gold Beach		36,900
Sixteenth	Douglas	Roseburg	Don H. Sanders Charles S. Woodrich	40,200
Seventeenth	Lincoln	Newport	Eugene K. Richardson	27,650
Nineteenth	Clatsop Columbia Tillamook	Astoria St. Helens Tillamook	Thomas E. Edison Donald L. Kalberer J.S. Bohannon	26,550
Twentieth	Washington	Hillsboro	Glen Hieber Gregory E. Miines (new judgeship created January 6, 1975) Albert R. Musick Hollie M. Pihl	47,725
Twentieth-first	Benton	Corvallis	Frank D. Knight Richard Mengler	
	Linn	Albany	Courtney R. Johns Wendell H. Tompkins	36,200

<sup>1</sup> The 1975 Legislature established four additional judgeships. The Second and Eleventh Judicial Districts each received one position effective in October, 1975. The Twelfth and Sixteenth Judicial Districts each were granted one position effective in 1977. The Third and Fifth Judicial Districts each were denied a requested position and the Second Judicial District was denied its second requested position.

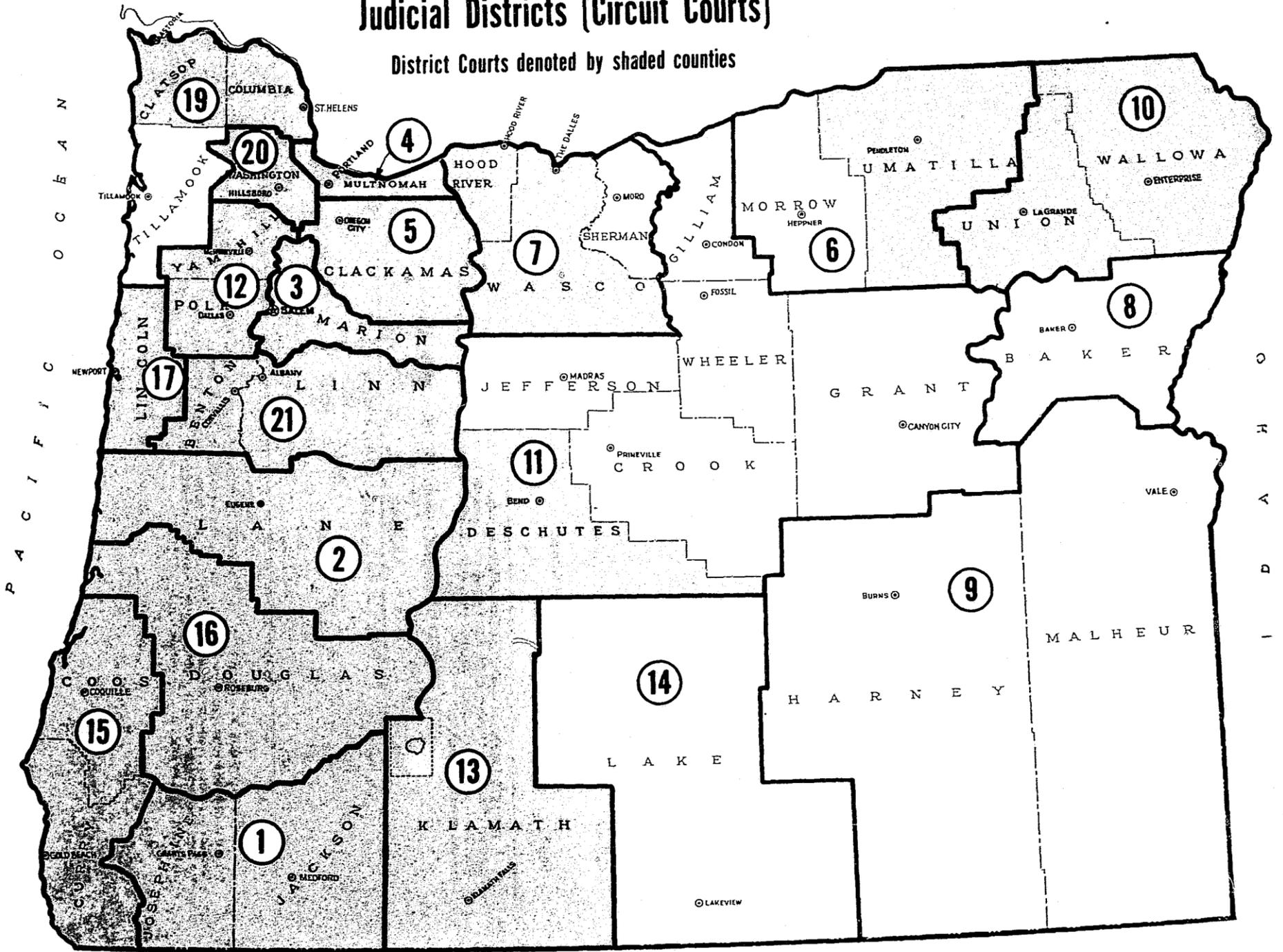
### ANALYSIS OF THE NUMBER OF JUDICIAL POSITIONS 1966 - 1975

Year	Number	Year	Number
1966	53.0	1971	60.0
1967	55.0	1972	61.0
1968	56.0	1973	63.5
1969	58.5	1974	65.0
1970	59.0	1975	66.5

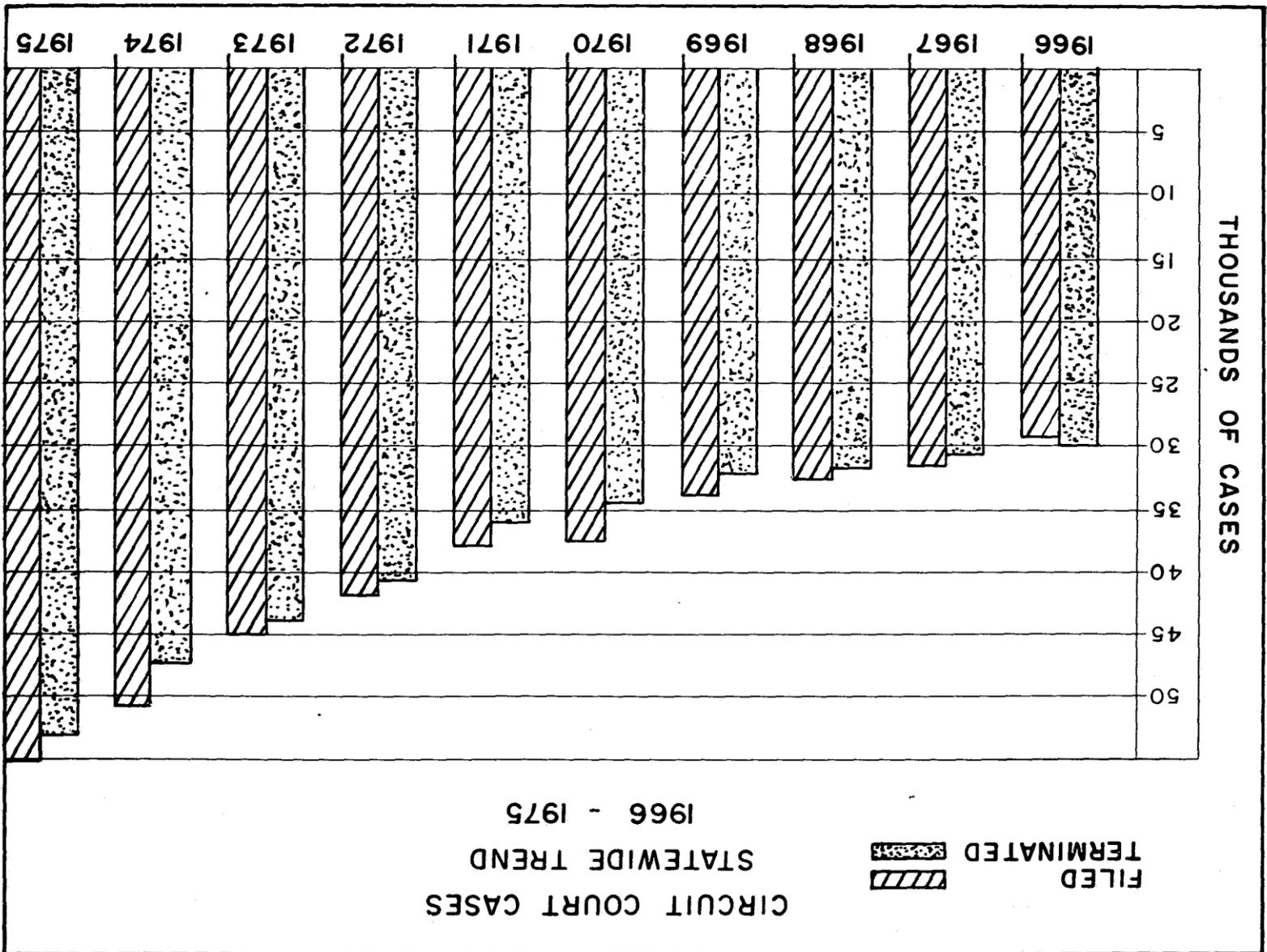
<sup>2</sup> Source of population figures is Center for Population Research & Census, Portland State University report for July 1, 1975.  
(a) Does not have juvenile jurisdiction. Juvenile jurisdiction is handled by county court.  
(b) Does not have juvenile or probate jurisdiction. Such jurisdiction is handled by county court.  
(c) Does not have probate jurisdiction. Probate jurisdiction is handled by county court.  
(d) Circuit court assumed juvenile jurisdiction July 1, 1975.

# Judicial Districts (Circuit Courts)

District Courts denoted by shaded counties



DISTRICT COURT SHADING AS OF 1-1-76



**CIRCUIT COURTS**

The circuit courts statewide sustained an eight percent increase in cases filed in 1975. This is an increase of 4,065 cases. There were increases in each of the four categories of cases. Law cases increased thirteen percent and equity fifteen percent. Dissolution cases increased two percent over the year and criminal filings eight percent.

The civil cases increased eight percent over the preceding year and accounted for seventy-four percent of the cases filed. The term "civil case" includes all law, equity, and dissolution proceedings. Law cases were twenty-seven percent of the total filings and equity ten percent. Dissolution cases were thirty-seven percent of the total number of filings. The remaining twenty-six percent of the 1975 filings were criminal cases. These proportions are the same as the distribution of cases filed in the past two years.

There were increases in the number of cases filed in all except two judicial districts. The Fourteenth Judicial District, Lake County, and the Seventeenth Judicial District, Lincoln County, each had fewer cases filed in 1975 than in 1974. The largest increase in cases filed was in the Fourth Judicial District, Multnomah County.

The number of cases terminated in 1975 grew thirteen percent over the 1974 level. This is an increase of 6,206 cases. Despite this advance, case terminations fell short of the filings and 1,562 additional cases were pending at the end of the year.

**TABLE 1\***

Judicial District	CASES FILED					CASES TERMINATED					-Backlog-Increase + Decrease -	
	Law	Equity	Dissolution	Criminal	Total	Law	Equity	Dissolution	Criminal	Total		
<b>First</b>												
Jackson	389	224	1,155	825	2,593	347	211	1,242	731	2,531	+ 62	
Josephine	121	77	403	151	752	92	65	355	156	668	+ 84	
Totals	510	301	1,558	976	3,345	439	276	1,597	887	3,199	+ 146	
<b>Second</b>												
Lane	1,288	727	2,248	1,421	5,684	1,042	620	2,284	1,491	5,437	+ 247	
<b>Third</b>												
Marion	1,382	280	1,512	1,805	4,979	1,315	280	1,597	1,760	4,952	+ 27	
<b>Fourth</b>												
Multnomah	6,262	1,363	5,940	3,854	17,419	5,416	1,376	6,126	3,889	16,807	+ 612	
<b>Fifth</b>												
Clackamas	880	408	1,477	802	3,567	845	411	1,438	804	3,498	+ 69	
<b>Sixth</b>												
Morrow	28	23	22	31	104	33	28	26	26	113	- 9	
Umatilla	155	105	421	282	963	175	105	425	268	973	- 10	
Totals	183	128	443	313	1,067	208	133	451	294	1,086	- 19	
<b>Seventh</b>												
Hood River	57	32	108	95	292	49	26	89	131	295	- 3	
Sherman	5	8	11	61	85	11	2	8	43	64	+ 21	
Wasco	88	73	177	167	505	75	71	174	186	506	- 1	
Totals	150	113	296	323	882	135	99	271	360	865	+ 17	
<b>Eighth</b>												
Baker	93	35	106	123	357	108	34	114	110	366	- 9	
<b>Ninth</b>												
Harney	73	25	40	7	145	67	27	38	12	144	+ 1	
Malheur	151	50	99	50	350	166	51	96	62	375	- 25	
Totals	224	75	139	57	495	233	78	134	74	519	- 24	
<b>Tenth</b>												
Union	133	75	182	69	459	166	94	187	58	505	- 46	
Wallowa	47	47	66	9	169	46	56	50	17	169	0	
Totals	180	122	248	78	628	212	150	237	75	674	- 46	

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

**TABLE 1\* - Continued**

Judicial District	CASES FILED					CASES TERMINATED					-Backlog-Increase + Decrease -	
	Law	Equity	Dissolution	Criminal	Total	Law	Equity	Dissolution	Criminal	Total		
<b>Eleventh</b>												
Crook	105	30	114	52	301	104	35	115	55	309	- 8	
Deschutes	234	125	361	282	1,002	228	101	346	246	921	+ 81	
Gilliam	5	2	7	17	31	11	3	5	12	31	0	
Grant	52	25	128	51	256	48	28	98	26	200	+ 56	
Jefferson	122	19	71	125	337	92	15	68	116	291	+ 46	
Wheeler	6	9	9	17	41	10	5	10	12	37	+ 4	
Totals	524	210	690	544	1,968	493	187	642	467	1,789	+ 179	
<b>Twelfth</b>												
Polk	119	77	199	204	599	122	61	199	166	548	+ 51	
Yamhill	145	73	293	228	739	143	63	275	256	737	+ 2	
Totals	264	150	492	432	1,338	265	124	474	422	1,285	+ 53	
<b>Thirteenth</b>												
Klamath	352	167	585	295	1,399	250	118	552	243	1,163	+ 236	
<b>Fourteenth</b>												
Lake	40	3	42	37	122	53	4	49	41	147	- 25	
<b>Fifteenth</b>												
Coos	333	125	569	475	1,502	317	119	511	535	1,482	+ 20	
Curry	65	45	94	57	261	56	40	102	48	246	+ 15	
Totals	398	170	663	532	1,763	373	159	613	583	1,728	+ 35	
<b>Sixteenth</b>												
Douglas	403	391	735	552	2,081	364	393	728	613	2,098	- 17	
<b>Seventeenth</b>												
Lincoln	191	65	214	242	712	194	61	229	213	697	+ 15	
<b>Nineteenth</b>												
Clatsop	171	74	245	122	612	137	64	246	169	616	- 4	
Columbia	134	67	241	278	720	123	57	236	280	696	+ 24	
Tillamook	101	39	115	143	398	104	43	90	139	376	+ 22	
Totals	406	180	601	543	1,730	364	164	572	588	1,688	+ 42	
<b>Twentieth</b>												
Washington	869	282	1,126	786	3,063	807	285	1,161	841	3,094	- 31	
<b>Twenty-first</b>												
Benton	139	62	345	203	749	198	57	367	192	814	- 65	
Linn	364	205	693	442	1,704	361	163	624	436	1,584	+ 120	
Totals	503	267	1,038	645	2,453	559	220	991	628	2,398	+ 55	
Statewide Totals	15,102	5,437	20,153	14,360	55,052	13,675	5,172	20,260	14,383	53,490	+1,562	

\* Does not include estates, guardianships or conservatorships. See Tables 14 and 16.

### CIRCUIT COURTS

The circuit court closed 1,839 criminal cases by trial in 1975, a twelve percent increase from the 1,642 cases tried in 1974. This increase is the first since 1971. The increase in the number of criminal cases tried, however, has not significantly changed the ratio of cases tried to cases filed. In 1975 this ratio was one trial to every 7.8 cases, slightly less than the one to eight ratio in 1974. By way of comparison, the 1966 ratio was one trial to every 4.4 filings. The trend has been toward a decreasing percentage of criminal cases reaching trial. The cause of this trend is not within the scope of these statistics. We are able to show, however, that long waiting periods from arrest until trial cannot be the cause.

The statistical measurements on the age of criminal cases tried include the range in age of cases tried, the median age, and the mean age. The median time from filing to trial was three months or less in twenty-nine of the thirty-six circuit courts. The mean age of all criminal cases tried by the circuit courts in 1975 was 3.0 months from the date of service of the warrant to trial. This time is a positive sign of the efficiency of the courts' criminal caseflow procedures. The statistics show that half of the criminal trials were in the Second, Third and Fourth Judicial Districts. The mean time from filing to trial in these districts was only 2.3 months.

**TABLE 2**  
**AGE OF CRIMINAL CASES TRIED COMPUTED FROM DATE OF SERVICE OF WARRANT**

Judicial District	No. of Cases Tried	Youngest in Months	Oldest in Months	Age of Median Case Tried in Months	Age of Mean Case Tried in Months
<b>First</b>					
Jackson	70	.5	9	3	3.6
Josephine	19	.5	6	3	2.3
<b>Second</b>					
Lane	268	1	17	4	4.1
<b>Third</b>					
Marion	94	.5	8	2	1.7
<b>Fourth</b>					
Multnomah	584	.5	7	1.5	1.5
<b>Fifth</b>					
Clackamas	89	1	34	3	4.1
<b>Sixth</b>					
Morrow	1	2	2	2	2
Umatilla	38	.5	8	1	1.8
<b>Seventh</b>					
Hood River	11	.5	10	3	3.6
Sherman	13	.5	31	27	16
Wasco	29	.5	14	3	3
<b>Eighth</b>					
Baker	16	.5	4	1	2.2
<b>Ninth</b>					
Harney	1	1	1	1	1
Malheur	13	.5	10	1	2.1
<b>Tenth</b>					
Union	4	2	4	3	3
Wallowa	11	2	8	3	4.3
<b>Eleventh</b>					
Crook	9	1	11	3	4.1
Deschutes	27	1	10	3	3.8
Gilliam	7	.5	3	3	2.4
Grant	8	1	5	2.5	2.8
Jefferson	10	1	5	2.5	3
Wheeler	3	1	5	3	2.7

### CIRCUIT COURTS

**TABLE 2**

**AGE OF CRIMINAL CASES TRIED COMPUTED FROM DATE OF SERVICE OF WARRANT - Continued**

Judicial District	No. of Cases Tried	Youngest in Months	Oldest in Months	Age of Median Case Tried in Months	Age of Mean Case Tried in Months
<b>Twelfth</b>					
Polk	25	1	17	3	3.6
Yamhill	29	1	13	5	5.6
<b>Thirteenth</b>					
Klamath	42	1	8	2	2.8
<b>Fourteenth</b>					
Lake	10	1	10	1.5	3.3
<b>Fifteenth</b>					
Coos	55	1	8	2	2.8
Curry	5	2	5	4	4
<b>Sixteenth</b>					
Douglas	57	.5	10	3	4
<b>Seventeenth</b>					
Lincoln	24	.5	14	5	6
<b>Nineteenth</b>					
Clatsop	22	1	17	4	4.1
Columbia	35	.5	18	5	5.6
Tillamook	27	1	11	3	3.7
<b>Twentieth</b>					
Washington	106	.5	16	3	3.8
<b>Twenty-first</b>					
Benton	27	.5	13	3	3.5
Linn	50	.5	16	2	3
Totals	1,839				

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

Until 1975, and each year since 1969, a smaller percentage of the number of criminal cases filed are closed by trial. The 1969 data, taken from that year's Annual Report, show 6,675 criminal cases filed and 1,340 cases tried, a twenty percent trial rate. By 1974 this percentage had dropped to 12.4 percent. The data indicates a trend away from criminal trials. The obverse of these statistics was an increase each year since 1969 in the percentage of criminal cases closed without trial. While some of these cases were dismissed, we must assume that most of the criminal cases closed without trial are through a plea of guilty by the defendant.

In 1975 the percentage of criminal cases closed by trial increased slightly to 12.8 percent. This small percentage increase may be the base of the decline or a brief fluctuation in the trend. Its magnitude is not significant enough to present a sound indication of the reversal of the trend, but that now must be considered a future possibility.

The number of cases tried in 1975 did increase significantly over the 1974 level (discussed earlier in Table 2). It must be noted that the number of cases tried to the court without a jury decreased four percent from 758 cases in 1974 to 726 in 1975. The number of cases tried to a jury increased twenty-six percent from 884 cases in 1974 to 1,113 cases in 1975.

**TABLE 3**  
**PERCENTAGE OF CRIMINAL CASES TRIED TO CRIMINAL CASES FILED**  
**January 1, 1975 to December 31, 1975**

Judicial District	No. of Cases Filed	No. Cases Tried By Jury	Total No. Cases Tried	% of Cases Tried
<b>First</b>				
Jackson	825	48	70	8.5
Josephine	151	12	19	12.6
<b>Second</b>				
Lane	1,421	205	268	18.9
<b>Third</b>				
Marion	1,805	28	94	5.2
<b>Fourth</b>				
Multnomah	3,854	345	584	15.2
<b>Fifth</b>				
Clackamas	802	35	89	11.1
<b>Sixth</b>				
Morrow	31	1	1	3.2
Umatilla	282	25	38	13.5
<b>Seventh</b>				
Hood River	95	7	11	11.6
Sherman	61	0	13	21.3
Wasco	167	20	29	17.4
<b>Eighth</b>				
Baker	123	10	16	13.
<b>Ninth</b>				
Harney	7	0	1	14.3
Malheur	50	10	13	26.
<b>Tenth</b>				
Union	69	3	4	5.8
Wallowa*	9	2	11	122.
<b>Eleventh</b>				
Crook	52	4	9	17.3
Deschutes	282	15	27	9.6
Gilliam	17	1	7	41.2
Grant	51	2	8	15.7
Jefferson	125	5	10	8
Wheeler	17	3	3	17.6

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

**TABLE 3**  
**PERCENTAGE OF CRIMINAL CASES TRIED TO CRIMINAL CASES FILED - Continued**  
**January 1, 1975 to December 31, 1975**

Judicial District	No. of Cases Filed	No. Cases Tried By Jury	Total No. Cases Tried	% of Cases Tried
<b>Twelfth</b>				
Polk	204	11	25	12.3
Yamhill	228	16	29	12.7
<b>Thirteenth</b>				
Klamath	295	25	42	14.2
<b>Fourteenth</b>				
Lake	37	8	10	27.
<b>Fifteenth</b>				
Coos	475	36	55	11.6
Curry	57	3	5	8.8
<b>Sixteenth</b>				
Douglas	552	44	57	10.3
<b>Seventeenth</b>				
Lincoln	242	14	24	9.9
<b>Nineteenth</b>				
Clatsop	122	14	22	18.
Columbia	278	21	35	12.6
Tillamook	143	15	27	18.9
<b>Twentieth</b>				
Washington	786	67	106	13.5
<b>Twenty-first</b>				
Benton	203	20	27	13.3
Linn	442	39	50	11.3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14,360</b>	<b>1,113</b>	<b>1,839</b>	<b>12.8</b>

\* Includes two cases tried which were filed in 1974.

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

When criminal proceedings are pending longer than six months it is often because some event has occurred which removes the case from the direct control of the courts' caseload procedures. The usual occurrence is the apprehended defendant who flees and must be rearrested before trial may begin. It is possible to infer from the small percentage of criminal cases tried and the very low average age that only a small portion of the criminal cases pending over six months are closed by trial.

This table shows the age of all pending criminal cases in six and twelve month intervals. It is important to note that 73.7 percent of all criminal cases were less than six months old from date of filing. There were 13.8 percent of the cases in the six month to one year category, and 12.5 percent pending over one year.

At the end of 1974, 3.3 percent of the criminal caseload, 132 cases, was over two years old. In 1975 this was reduced to 2.8 percent, 113 cases. This reduction in the number of extremely old cases has been accompanied by a decline of 126 cases in the less than six months category and an increase of 125 cases between six months and two years old from date of filing.

**TABLE 4  
PERCENTAGE OF ALL CRIMINAL CASES PENDING FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS**

Judicial District	Cases Pending 12-31-75	Less Than 6 Mo.	6 Mo. to 1 Year	1 Yr. to 2 Yr.	Over 2 Yr.	% Over 2 Yr.
<b>First</b>						
Jackson	306	229	66	11	0	0
Josephine	53	35	11	7	0	0
<b>Second</b>						
Lane	615	388	87	104	36	5.9
<b>Third</b>						
Marion	225	210	10	2	3	1.3
<b>Fourth</b>						
Multnomah	739	710	26	2	1	0.1
<b>Fifth</b>						
Clackamas	490	240	94	124	32	6.5
<b>Sixth</b>						
Morrow	6	6	0	0	0	0
Umatilla	27	26	1	0	0	0
<b>Seventh</b>						
Hood River	13	8	3	2	0	0
Sherman	35	28	3	1	3	8.6
Wasco	14	13	0	1	0	0
<b>Eighth</b>						
Baker	36	33	1	2	0	0
<b>Ninth</b>						
Harney	2	0	0	2	0	0
Malheur	11	10	0	1	0	0
<b>Tenth</b>						
Union	16	16	0	0	0	0
Wallowa	1	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Eleventh</b>						
Crook	19	16	2	1	0	0
Deschutes	78	58	19	1	0	0
Gilliam	5	1	4	0	0	0
Grant	32	32	0	0	0	0
Jefferson	42	30	5	7	0	0
Wheeler	13	13	0	0	0	0

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

**TABLE 4  
PERCENTAGE OF ALL CRIMINAL CASES PENDING FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS - Continued**

Judicial District	Cases Pending 12-31-75	Less Than 6 Mo.	6 Mo. to 1 Year	1 Yr. to 2 Yr.	Over 2 Yr.	% Over 2 Yr.
<b>Twelfth</b>						
Polk	83	60	10	6	7	8.4
Yamhill	75	46	17	10	2	2.7
<b>Thirteenth</b>						
Klamath	99	68	25	5	1	1.0
<b>Fourteenth</b>						
Lake	4	3	0	1	0	0
<b>Fifteenth</b>						
Coos	64	55	4	5	0	0
Curry	21	19	1	1	0	0
<b>Sixteenth</b>						
Douglas	202	121	40	32	9	4.5
<b>Seventeenth</b>						
Lincoln	97	68	21	6	2	2.1
<b>Nineteenth</b>						
Clatsop	56	31	11	11	3	5.4
Columbia	126	103	17	3	3	2.4
Tillamook	58	48	5	5	0	0
<b>Twentieth</b>						
Washington	166	100	43	17	6	3.6
<b>Twenty-first</b>						
Benton	47	47	0	0	0	0
Linn	120	73	27	15	5	4.2
Totals	3,996	2,945	553	385	113	2.8

CIRCUIT COURTS

The table shows the number, the range in age, and the median and mean age of civil cases tried during 1975. The 1954 edition of this report declared a major goal of judicial administration in Oregon to be the trial of all civil cases within six to eight months from date of filing. This table shows that twenty-six of the thirty-six circuit courts achieved a median age of civil cases tried of eight months or less. Six of the ten courts with a median age over eight months were between eight and nine months. The remaining four courts had a median age between ten and twelve months. The mean age for all civil cases tried in 1975 is 9.3 months. The mean age will generally be higher than the median due to its sensitivity to old cases.

TABLE 5  
AGE OF ALL CIVIL CASES TRIED COMPUTED FROM DATE OF FILING

Judicial District	No. of Cases Tried	Youngest in Months	Oldest in Months	Age of Median Case Tried in Months	Age of Mean Case Tried in Months
<b>First</b>					
Jackson	183	.5	71	8	10
Josephine	88	.5	41	6	6.8
<b>Second</b>					
Lane	282	.5	34	13	13
<b>Third</b>					
Marion	462	.5	44	6	7
<b>Fourth</b>					
Multnomah	1,605	.5	42	9	10
<b>Fifth</b>					
Clackamas	315	1	39	9	10.6
<b>Sixth</b>					
Morrow	6	1	13	4	4.2
Umatilla	70	1	20	5	6
<b>Seventh</b>					
Hood River	24	1	54	7.5	14.6
Sherman	4	2	30	6.5	11.2
Wasco	48	.5	36	9.5	11.1
<b>Eighth</b>					
Baker	32	1	31	6	7.5
<b>Ninth</b>					
Harney	17	2	15	5	6.1
Malheur	12	3	12	6	6.9
<b>Tenth</b>					
Union	71	.5	53	6	8.6
Wallowa	14	1	12	8	6.7
<b>Eleventh</b>					
Crook	19	.5	23	10	9.9
Deschutes	82	2	34	9	9.7
Gilliam	1	9	9	9	9
Grant	22	1	14	4.5	5.5
Jefferson	24	3	19	9	9.2
Wheeler	2	3	15	9	9

CIRCUIT COURTS

TABLE 5  
AGE OF ALL CIVIL CASES TRIED COMPUTED FROM DATE OF FILING - Continued

Judicial District	No. of Cases Tried	Youngest in Months	Oldest in Months	Age of Median Case Tried in Months	Age of Mean Case Tried in Months
<b>Twelfth</b>					
Polk	78	1	50	8	10
Yamhill	76	.5	26	7	8.5
<b>Thirteenth</b>					
Klamath	101	1	35	8	11
<b>Fourteenth</b>					
Lake	3	2	11	4	5.7
<b>Fifteenth</b>					
Coos	79	1	36	7	7.9
Curry	21	2	12	6	7
<b>Sixteenth</b>					
Douglas	168	.5	59	7	9.4
<b>Seventeenth</b>					
Lincoln	46	3	25	12	11.2
<b>Nineteenth</b>					
Clatsop	63	.5	28	7	8.9
Columbia	72	2	43	7	9.3
Tillamook	22	1	39	7	9.9
<b>Twentieth</b>					
Washington	307	.5	43	6	7.1
<b>Twenty-first</b>					
Benton	100	.5	26	5	5.5
Linn	152	1	35	6	7.7
Total	4,671				

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

The number of civil cases tried had stabilized from 1972 through 1974. There were 3,825, 3,827, and 3,826 civil cases tried in 1972, 1973 and 1974, respectively. The number of civil cases filed increased in each of these years, and the percentage of cases closed by trial declined. In 1974 only 10.1 percent of the number of cases filed were closed by trial.

In 1975 the number of civil cases filed increased eight percent. The number of civil cases tried burgeoned twenty-two percent, 845 cases. The growth in the number of civil trials accompanied by that disparate increase in cases filed resulted in an 11.5 percent civil trial rate. This increase must be considered significant and may indicate a heightened inclination on the part of litigants to adjudicate cases that heretofore have been settled without trial.

**TABLE 6**  
**PERCENTAGE OF CIVIL CASES TRIED TO CIVIL CASES FILED**  
**January 1, 1975 to December 31, 1975**

Judicial District	No. of Cases Filed	No. Cases Tried By Jury	Total No. Cases Tried	% of Cases Tried
<b>First</b>				
Jackson	1,768	43	183	10.4
Josephine	601	10	88	14.6
<b>Second</b>				
Lane	4,263	80	282	6.6
<b>Third</b>				
Marion	3,174	60	462	14.6
<b>Fourth</b>				
Multnomah	13,565	415	1,605	11.8
<b>Fifth</b>				
Clackamas	2,765	65	315	11.4
<b>Sixth</b>				
Morrow	73	2	6	8.2
Umatilla	681	17	70	10.3
<b>Seventh</b>				
Hood River	197	6	24	12.2
Sherman	24	0	4	16.7
Wasco	338	9	48	14.2
<b>Eighth</b>				
Baker	234	7	32	13.7
<b>Ninth</b>				
Harney	138	8	17	12.3
Malheur	300	3	12	4.0
<b>Tenth</b>				
Union	390	13	71	18.2
Wallowa	160	2	14	8.8
<b>Eleventh</b>				
Crook	249	6	19	7.6
Deschutes	720	25	82	11.4
Gilliam	14	0	1	7.1
Grant	205	7	22	10.7
Jefferson	212	9	24	11.3
Wheeler	24	2	2	8.3

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

**TABLE 6**  
**PERCENTAGE OF CIVIL CASES TRIED TO CIVIL CASES FILED - Continued**  
**January 1, 1975 to December 31, 1975**

Judicial District	No. of Cases Filed	No. Cases Tried By Jury	Total No. Cases Tried	% of Cases Tried
<b>Twelfth</b>				
Polk	395	15	78	19.7
Yamhill	511	12	76	14.9
<b>Thirteenth</b>				
Klamath	1,104	21	101	9.1
<b>Fourteenth</b>				
Lake	85	2	3	3.5
<b>Fifteenth</b>				
Coos	1,027	36	79	7.7
Curry	204	5	21	10.3
<b>Sixteenth</b>				
Douglas	1,529	42	168	11.
<b>Seventeenth</b>				
Lincoln	470	18	46	9.8
<b>Nineteenth</b>				
Clatsop	490	12	63	12.9
Columbia	442	8	72	16.3
Tillamook	255	4	22	8.6
<b>Twentieth</b>				
Washington	2,277	45	307	13.5
<b>Twenty-first</b>				
Benton	546	23	100	18.3
Linn	1,262	32	152	12.
<b>Statewide Totals</b>				
	40,692	1,064	4,671	11.5

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

This table shows the age of civil cases tried exclusive of divorce cases. The table contains data on the number, range in age, and median age of cases tried. Law and equity cases represent sixty-one percent of the civil trials. The range in age of these cases was from fifteen days to five years and eleven months. The median age of cases tried was eight months or lower in twenty of the thirty-six circuit courts. The mean age of cases tried was 10.4 months.

The number of law and equity cases tried declined each year from 1972 through 1974. There were 2,693 cases tried in 1972. This decreased to 2,548 in 1973, and to 2,536 in 1974. The number of cases filed in each of these years increased. The filings were 14,565, 16,076 and 18,019 for the years 1972, 1973 and 1974, respectively. The number of law and equity cases tried expressed as a percentage of cases filed has declined from eighteen percent in 1972 to sixteen percent in 1973, and fourteen percent in 1974.

The number of law and equity cases tried in 1975 increased twelve percent, 299 cases. The number of cases tried expressed as a percentage of cases filed grew to fifteen percent.

**TABLE 7**  
**AGE OF LAW AND EQUITY CASES TRIED COMPUTED FROM DATE OF FILING\***

Judicial District	No. of Cases Tried	Youngest in Months	Oldest in Months	Age of Median Case Tried in Months	Age of Mean Case Tried in Months
<b>First</b>					
Jackson	115	.5	71	9	11.9
Josephine	38	.5	33	8	8.4
<b>Second</b>					
Lane	197	.5	34	14	13.8
<b>Third</b>					
Marion	356	.5	44	5	6.7
<b>Fourth</b>					
Multnomah	896	1	29	11	12
<b>Fifth</b>					
Clackamas	186	1	39	11	12.4
<b>Sixth</b>					
Morrow	6	1	13	4	5.6
Umatilla	37	1	20	6	7.5
<b>Seventh</b>					
Hood River	17	1	54	13	11.3
Sherman	3	2	30	9	13.7
Wasco	33	.5	36	10	12
<b>Eighth</b>					
Baker	23	1	32	8	8.3
<b>Ninth</b>					
Harney	11	2	15	6	6.9
Malheur	7	3	12	7	7.6
<b>Tenth</b>					
Union	48	.5	53	7	9.6
Wallowa	11	1	12	8	6.5
<b>Eleventh</b>					
Crook	17	.5	23	10	10
Deschutes	50	3	34	11.5	11.7
Gilliam	0	0	0	0	0
Grant	15	1	14	4	5.4
Jefferson	18	3	19	9	9.9
Wheeler	2	3	15	9	9

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

**TABLE 7**

**AGE OF LAW AND EQUITY CASES TRIED COMPUTED FROM DATE OF FILING\* - Continued**

Judicial District	No. of Cases Tried	Youngest in Months	Oldest in Months	Age of Median Case Tried in Months	Age of Mean Case Tried in Months
<b>Twelfth</b>					
Polk	54	1	50	10	11.1
Yamhill	32	.5	26	9	10.8
<b>Thirteenth</b>					
Klamath	54	1	35	10.5	12.8
<b>Fourteenth</b>					
Lake	3	2	11	4	5.7
<b>Fifteenth</b>					
Coos	53	2	36	8	9.1
Curry	14	4	12	6.5	8
<b>Sixteenth</b>					
Douglas	114	1	59	8	9.4
<b>Seventeenth</b>					
Lincoln	28	5	25	15	14.1
<b>Nineteenth</b>					
Clatsop	31	.5	28	8	10.8
Columbia	35	2	43	9	10.6
Tillamook	15	1	39	8	11.6
<b>Twentieth</b>					
Washington	183	.5	39	7	7.9
<b>Twenty-first</b>					
Benton	57	.5	26	6	6
Linn	76	1	35	7	8.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,835</b>				

\*Exclusive of dissolution cases which are shown separately in Table 8.

CIRCUIT COURTS

There were only two circuit courts with a median age of dissolution cases tried over eight months. The mean age of dissolution cases tried was 7.5 months.

The number of cases tried in 1975 expanded forty-two percent over the 1,290 cases tried in 1974. The increase raised the percentage of cases closed by trial to nine percent of the 20,153 cases filed. This comparatively low percentage of cases proceeding to trial may be the result of the abolition of the doctrines of fault and *in pari delicto* in suits for the dissolution of a marriage.

TABLE 8

AGE OF DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE CASES TRIED, COMPUTED FROM DATE OF FILING

Judicial District	No. of Cases Tried	Youngest in Months	Oldest in Months	Age of Median Case Tried in Months	Age of Mean Case Tried in Months
<b>First</b>					
Jackson	68	1	20	6	7
Josephine	50	1	20	6	7
<b>Second</b>					
Lane	85	1	26	11	11.2
<b>Third</b>					
Marion	106	3	22	7	8.2
<b>Fourth</b>					
Multnomah	709	3	42	8	8
<b>Fifth</b>					
Clackamas	129	3	28	7	8
<b>Sixth</b>					
Morrow	0	0	0	0	0
Umatilla	33	1	6	4	3.9
<b>Seventh</b>					
Hood River	7	4	15	7	7.8
Sherman	1	4	4	4	4
Wasco	15	3	19	8	8.9
<b>Eighth</b>					
Baker	9	3	10	4	5.5
<b>Ninth</b>					
Harney	6	3	7	3	4
Malheur	5	4	10	5	5.6
<b>Tenth</b>					
Union	23	3	13	6	6.2
Wallowa	3	5	8	8	7
<b>Eleventh</b>					
Crook	2	5	12	8	8.5
Deschutes	32	2	13	5	6.3
Gilliam	1	9	9	9	9
Grant	7	3	14	5	6.2
Jefferson	6	4	11	5	6.6
Wheeler	0	0	0	0	0

CIRCUIT COURTS

TABLE 8

AGE OF DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE CASES TRIED COMPUTED FROM DATE OF FILING - Continued

Judicial District	No. of Cases Tried	Youngest in Months	Oldest in Months	Age of Median Case Tried in Months	Age of Mean Case Tried in Months
<b>Twelfth</b>					
Polk	24	1	23	7	7.4
Yamhill	44	1	18	6	6.9
<b>Thirteenth</b>					
Klamath	47	1	21	6	6.6
<b>Fourteenth</b>					
Lake	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Fifteenth</b>					
Coos	26	1	13	5.5	5.4
Curry	7	2	7	5	4.7
<b>Sixteenth</b>					
Douglas	54	.5	25	5	6.4
<b>Seventeenth</b>					
Lincoln	18	3	16	6	7.4
<b>Nineteenth</b>					
Clatsop	32	3	18	6	6.7
Columbia	37	4	31	6	7.9
Tillamook	7	4	8	6	6.2
<b>Twentieth</b>					
Washington	124	1	43	5	6
<b>Twenty-first</b>					
Benton	43	1	22	4	4.9
Linn	76	3	25	6	7.7
Total	1,836				

CIRCUIT COURTS

The distribution of pending civil cases according to age demonstrates the diligence of the circuit judges in eliminating the old cases from their dockets. Fifty-eight percent of the cases were less than six months old and eighty-four percent less than one year old. While the remaining sixteen percent of the cases had been pending for more than one year, only 2.2 percent of these were over two years old.

TABLE 9

PERCENTAGE OF ALL CIVIL CASES PENDING FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS

Judicial District	Cases Pending 12-31-75	Less Than 6 Mo.	6 Mo. to 1 Year	1 Yr. to 2 Yr.	Over 2 Yr.	% Over 2 Yr.
<b>First</b>						
Jackson	1,269	906	228	130	5	.4
Josephine	395	217	81	88	9	2.3
<b>Second</b>						
Lane	3,322	1,603	907	687	125*	3.8
<b>Third</b>						
Marion	1,842	1,119	460	232	31	1.7
<b>Fourth</b>						
Multnomah	8,163	5,092	2,313	734	24	.3
<b>Fifth</b>						
Clackamas	2,141	1,044	548	427	122	5.7
<b>Sixth</b>						
Morrow	27	22	5	0	0	0
Umatilla	243	206	32	5	0	0
<b>Seventh</b>						
Hood River	131	60	37	30	4	3.1
Sherman	17	7	9	0	1	5.9
Wasco	189	111	60	16	2	1.1
<b>Eighth</b>						
Baker	94	65	17	11	1	1.1
<b>Ninth</b>						
Harney	59	47	9	0	3	5.1
Malheur	163	107	28	21	7	4.3
<b>Tenth</b>						
Union	177	130	39	7	1	.6
Wallowa	82	42	38	2	0	0
<b>Eleventh</b>						
Crook	154	90	36	22	6	3.9
Deschutes	469	284	121	54	10	2.1
Gilliam	7	4	2	1	0	0
Grant	125	83	27	15	0	0
Jefferson	140	78	43	18	1	.7
Wheeler	13	6	4	3	0	0

CIRCUIT COURTS

TABLE 9

PERCENTAGE OF ALL CIVIL CASES PENDING FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS - Continued

Judicial District	Cases Pending 12-31-75	Less Than 6 Mo.	6 Mo. to 1 Year	1 Yr. to 2 Yr.	Over 2 Yr.	% Over 2 Yr.
<b>Twelfth</b>						
Polk	281	141	69	50	21	7.5
Yamhill	349	191	83	63	12	3.4
<b>Thirteenth</b>						
Klamath	963	399	262	230	72	7.5
<b>Fourteenth</b>						
Lake	45	22	10	12	1	2.2
<b>Fifteenth</b>						
Coos	489	334	144	11	0	0
Curry	94	66	23	5	0	0
<b>Sixteenth</b>						
Douglas	741	463	221	53	4	.5
<b>Seventeenth</b>						
Lincoln	320	177	89	54	0	0
<b>Nineteenth</b>						
Clatsop	383	173	105	95	10	2.6
Columbia	346	173	83	73	17	4.9
Tillamook	191	104	35	37	15	7.9
<b>Twentieth</b>						
Washington	1,306	820	287	163	36	2.8
<b>Twenty-first</b>						
Benton	304	184	65	51	4	1.3
Linn	912	436	200	240	36	3.9
Statewide Totals	25,946	15,006	6,720	3,640	580	2.2

\* 5 of these 161 cases are law cases over two years old having a common defendant.

CIRCUIT COURTS

The circuit courts show a 6.6 percent growth in the number of civil cases pending at the end of 1975, an increase of 1,608 cases. The number of cases pending over two years advanced 59 cases, 0.10 percent. Data on the percent of civil cases pending over two years was first reported in 1959. In that year, 13.5 percent of the civil caseload, 2,433 cases, had been pending over two years.

TABLE 10  
COMPARATIVE TABLE  
NUMBER OF ALL CIVIL CASES PENDING  
AND PERCENTAGE PENDING OVER TWO YEARS

Judicial District	Pending 12-31-71	Pending 12-31-72	Pending 12-31-73	Pending 12-31-74	Pending 12-31-75
<b>First</b>					
Jackson	876 (2.7)	938 (2.6)	1,125 (2.1)	1,301 (2.)	1,269 (.4)
Josephine	367 (4.4)	332 (5.4)	345 (2.6)	306 (2.6)	395 (2.3)
<b>Second</b>					
Lane	2,242 (1.5)*	2,365 (2.1)*	2,483 (2.1)*	3,005 (1.5)*	3,322 (3.8)**
<b>Third</b>					
Marion	1,321 (3.1)	1,466 (3.6)	1,544 (5.)	1,860 (4.4)	1,842 (1.7)
<b>Fourth</b>					
Multnomah	6,811 (1.3)	6,698 (1.7)	6,326 (.1)	7,516 (.1)	8,163 (.3)
<b>Fifth</b>					
Clackamas	1,413 (4.4)	1,501 (4.3)	1,771 (4.4)	2,070 (5.5)	2,141 (5.7)
<b>Sixth</b>					
Morrow	23 (0)	22 (0)	22 (0)	41 (0)	27 (0)
Umatilla	222 (0)	220 (0)	222 (0)	269 (0)	243 (0)
<b>Seventh</b>					
Hood River	161 (14.3)	97 (8.2)	106 (1.9)	98 (1.)	131 (3.1)
Sherman	28 (25.)	21 (0)	19 (10.5)	14 (7.1)	17 (5.9)
Wasco	250 (18.)	232 (13.8) ***	179 (6.7)	171 (4.1)	189 (1.1)
<b>Eighth</b>					
Baker	94 (1.1)	126 (0)	113 (18.)	116 (.9)	94 (1.1)
<b>Ninth</b>					
Harney	46 (2.2)	76 (2.6)	64 (3.1)	53 (17.)	59 (5.1)
Malheur	111 (7.2)	134 (9.)	149 (6.)	176 (6.3)	163 (4.3)
<b>Tenth</b>					
Union	255 (12.5)	270 (7.8)	265 (5.3)	234 (2.1)	177 (.6)
Wallowa	88 (13.6)	94 (14.9)	91 (7.7)	74 (6.8)	82 (0)
<b>Eleventh</b>					
Crook	142 (2.1)	137 (1.5)	131 (0)	156 (2.6)	154 (3.9)
Deschutes	327 (.9)	347 (.9)	388 (.8)	424 (1.2)	469 (2.1)
Gilliam	11 (0)	15 (0)	14 (0)	10 (0)	7 (0)
Grant	128 (1.6)	143 (2.1)	118 (0)	94 (2.1)	125 (0)
Jefferson	111 (1.7)	99 (2.)	115 (3.5)	103 (1.)	140 (7)
Wheeler	20 (0)	13 (0)	11 (0)	14 (0)	13 (0)

CIRCUIT COURTS

TABLE 10  
COMPARATIVE TABLE  
NUMBER OF ALL CIVIL CASES PENDING  
AND PERCENTAGE PENDING OVER TWO YEARS - Continued

Judicial District	Pending 12-31-71	Pending 12-31-72	Pending 12-31-73	Pending 12-31-74	Pending 12-31-75
<b>Twelfth</b>					
Polk	220 (5.)	239 (9.2)	244 (7.)	268 (7.1)	281 (7.5)
Yamhill	288 (8.)	310 (7.4)	262 (3.4)	319 (1.3)	349 (3.4)
<b>Thirteenth</b>					
Klamath	656 (10.4)	691 (8.4)	706 (10.2)	779 (6.9)	963 (7.5)
<b>Fourteenth</b>					
Lake	58 (0)	59 (0)	92 (3.3)	66 (3.)	45 (2.2)
<b>Fifteenth</b>					
Coos	311 (0)	363 (0)	449 (0)	409 (.2)	489 (0)
Curry	95 (0)	92 (0)	107 (0)	89 (0)	94 (0)
<b>Sixteenth</b>					
Douglas	897 (7.1)	972 (6.9)	918 (5.3)	697 (1.1)	741 (.5)
<b>Seventeenth (a)</b>					
Lincoln	—	321 (4.)	298 (1.3)	331 (.3)	320 (0)
<b>Nineteenth</b>					
Clatsop	255 (2.)	251 (0)	249 (2.)	340 (.6)	383 (2.6)
Columbia	393 (7.4)	345 (7.2)	292 (9.2)	320 (6.3)	346 (4.9)
Tillamook	151 (6.6)	161 (6.2)	187 (4.3)	173 (11.)	191 (7.9)
<b>Twentieth</b>					
Washington	673 (.6)	846 (.4)	990 (1.)	1,282 (.7)	1,306 (2.8)
<b>Twenty-first</b>					
Benton	305 (1.3)	395 (1.8)	381 (2.4)	380 (.5)	304 (1.3)
Lincoln (a)	315 (8.3)	—	—	—	—
Linn	653 (6.3)	666 (5.7)	717 (4.7)	798 (4.1)	912 (3.9)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>20,317 (3.4)</b>	<b>21,057 (3.3)</b>	<b>21,493 (2.5)</b>	<b>24,356 (2.1)</b>	<b>25,946 (2.2)</b>

\* Includes 12 cases having common defendant.

\*\* Includes 5 cases having common defendant.

\*\*\* Includes 15 cases having common defendant.

(a) New judicial district composed of Lincoln County created September 9, 1971.

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

There are many occasions requiring the assignment of temporary judicial help. Judges take vacations, become ill, are disqualified from trials, and sometimes are behind in their work. These events require another judge to step in and help the court. Whenever possible, the need for extra judicial help is filled by the assignment of other circuit judges. If none are available, district judges, senior judges and circuit judges pro tempore are used. The use of an extensive number of days of temporary help is an indication that another fulltime judicial position is needed.

In 1975, the circuit courts used 1,290.5 days of help and gave 444 days, leaving a balance of 858.5 days' help received from district court judges, senior judges, and lawyers who are appointed to serve as circuit court judges pro tempore. This level of temporary assistance is much higher than the 521 days of help received by the circuit courts in 1974, an increase of sixty-five percent.

Two circuit judge positions that were established by the 1975 Legislature became effective in October, 1975. It is anticipated that this addition will reduce the amount of temporary help that will be necessary in 1976. The need for temporary help will not, however, be eliminated. The judicial year is composed of 252 regular working days exclusive of vacations and other leaves of absence. The 858.5 days of help received from sources other than the regular circuit judges represents 3.4 full time equivalent judicial positions for 1975.

**TABLE 11  
WORKING DAYS OF HELP RECEIVED BY DISTRICTS FROM VISITING CIRCUIT  
JUDGES, FROM CIRCUIT JUDGES PRO TEMPORE, AND FROM DISTRICT COURT  
JUDGES, AS WELL AS NUMBER OF WORKING  
DAYS OF HELP GIVEN TO OTHER DISTRICTS**

Judicial District	Days of Help Received	Days of Help Given to Other Districts	Excess Days of Help Given or Received
1. Sixth			
Morrow	0	0	
Umatilla	<u>4</u>	<u>69.5</u>	
	4	69.5	65.5 Given
2. Fourteenth			
Lake	11.5	44	32.5 Given
3. Twenty-first			
Benton	0	33.5	
Linn	<u>2.5</u>	<u>1</u>	
	2.5	34.5	32 Given
4. Twentieth			
Washington	36.5	64	27.5 Given
5. Eighth			
Baker	23.5	36	12.5 Given
6. Fifteenth			
Coos	2	3	
Curry	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	
	3	3	0
7. Ninth			
Harney	2	0	
Malheur	<u>25.5</u>	<u>16.5</u>	
	27.5	16.5	11 Received
8. Seventeenth			
Lincoln	22.5	4.5	18 Received
9. Eleventh			
Cook	2	0	
Deschutes	27	10	
Gilliam	0	0	
Grant	0	.5	
Jefferson	2	0	
Wheeler	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	
	32	10.5	21.5 Received

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

**TABLE 11**

**WORKING DAYS OF HELP RECEIVED BY DISTRICTS FROM VISITING CIRCUIT  
JUDGES, FROM CIRCUIT JUDGES PRO TEMPORE, AND FROM DISTRICT COURT  
JUDGES, AS WELL AS NUMBER OF WORKING  
DAYS OF HELP GIVEN TO OTHER DISTRICTS - Continued**

Judicial District	Days of Help Received	Days of Help Given to Other Districts	Excess Days of Help Given or Received
10. Seventh			
Hood River	21	0	
Sherman	.5	0	
Wasco	<u>18</u>	<u>12.5</u>	
	39.5	12.5	27 Received
11. Fifth			
Clackamas	33	4	29 Received
12. Twelfth			
Polk	29.5	9.5	
Yamhill	<u>28</u>	<u>2</u>	
	57.5	11.5	46 Received
13. First			
Jackson	10.5	9	
Josephine	<u>46</u>	<u>0</u>	
	56.5	9	47.5 Received
14. Sixteenth			
Douglas	60	8	52 Received
15. Nineteenth			
Clatsop	38.5	11	
Columbia	17.5	10.5	
Tillamook	<u>20.5</u>	<u>3</u>	
	76.5	24.5	52 Received
16. Tenth			
Union	41	6	
Wallowa	<u>20</u>	<u>0</u>	
	61	6	55 Received
17. Thirteenth			
Klamath	79	8	71 Received
18. Third			
Marion	98	3	95 Received
19. Fourth			
Multnomah	296.5	56	240.5 Received
20. Second			
Lane	270	11	259 Received

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

The number of cases filed per judge and its increase each year is an important measure of judicial workload. During the ten-year period from 1966 the number of cases filed per judge has increased forty-eight percent from 557 to 828 cases. The number of cases terminated per judge has increased forty-one percent from 569 to 804 cases. During this same ten-year period the number of cases tried per judge increased twenty-two percent from 77 cases to 93.7 cases in 1975.

These statistics show substantial increases in case filings and terminations per judge. The number of cases tried per judge, however, increased less significantly over the ten-year period.

Judicial productivity, therefore, should be measured in terms of overall terminations and not the number of cases tried. Judges spend endless hours hearing motions and conducting pretrial conferences on cases that will settle, often because of this judicial effort, before reaching trial. As the number of cases filed per judge increases there is greater demand for judicial time for these pretrial matters and concomitantly less time for trials. The result may be a decline in the number of trials, however, there will be an increase in total terminations.

**TABLE 12**

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF TOTAL CASES FILED AND TRIED PER JUDGE - 1975**

Judicial District	No. of Regular Resident Judges	Total Cases Filed*	Average No. Cases Filed Per Regular Resident Judge	Total Cases Tried*	No. of Judges**	Average No. Cases Tried Per Judge
<b>First</b>						
Jackson	3	2,593		253		
Josephine	$\frac{1}{4}$	<u>752</u>		<u>107</u>		
	4	3,345	836	360	4.2	85.7
<b>Second</b>						
Lane	6.25***	5,684	909	550	7.3	75.9
<b>Third</b>						
Marion	5	4,979	996	556	5.3	105
<b>Fourth</b>						
Multnomah	18	17,419	968	2,189	19	115
<b>Fifth</b>						
Clackamas	4	3,567	892	404	4.1	98.5
<b>Sixth</b>						
Morrow		104		7		
Umatilla	$\frac{2}{2}$	<u>963</u>		<u>108</u>		
		1,067	534	115	2	57.5
<b>Seventh</b>						
Hood River		292		35		
Sherman		85		17		
Wasco	$\frac{1}{1}$	<u>505</u>		<u>77</u>		
	1	882	882	129	1.1	117.2
<b>Eighth</b>						
Baker	1	357	357	48	1	48
<b>Ninth</b>						
Harney		145		18		
Malheur	$\frac{1}{1}$	<u>350</u>		<u>25</u>		
	1	495	495	43	1	43
<b>Tenth</b>						
Union	1	459		75		
Wallowa	$\frac{1}{1}$	<u>169</u>		<u>25</u>		
	1	628	628	100	1.2	83.3

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

**TABLE 12**

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF TOTAL CASES FILED AND TRIED PER JUDGE - 1975 - Continued**

Judicial District	No. of Regular Resident Judges	Total Cases Filed*	Average No. Cases Filed Per Regular Resident Judge	Total Cases Tried*	No. of Judges**	Average No. Cases Tried Per Judge
<b>Eleventh</b>						
Crook		301		28		
Deschutes	1.25***	1,002		109		
Gilliam		31		8		
Grant	1	256		30		
Jefferson		337		34		
Wheeler		<u>41</u>		<u>5</u>		
	2.25	1,968	874.6	214	2.3	91.8
<b>Twelfth</b>						
Polk	1	599		103		
Yamhill	$\frac{1}{2}$	<u>739</u>		<u>105</u>		
	2	1,338	669	208	2.2	94.5
<b>Thirteenth</b>						
Klamath	2	1,399	700	143	2.3	62.2
<b>Fourteenth</b>						
Lake	1	122	122	13	1	13
<b>Fifteenth</b>						
Coos	2	1,502		134		
Curry		<u>261</u>		<u>26</u>		
	2	1,763	882	160	2	80
<b>Sixteenth</b>						
Douglas	2	2,081	1,040	225	2.2	102.3
<b>Seventeenth</b>						
Lincoln	1	712	712	70	1.1	63.6
<b>Nineteenth</b>						
Clatsop	1	612		85		
Columbia	1	720		107		
Tillamook	$\frac{1}{3}$	<u>398</u>		<u>49</u>		
	3	1,730	577	241	3.2	75.3
<b>Twentieth</b>						
Washington	4	3,063	766	413	4	103.3
<b>Twenty-First</b>						
Benton	2	749		127		
Linn	$\frac{2}{4}$	<u>1,704</u>		<u>202</u>		
	4	2,453	613	329	4	82.3
Statewide Totals	66.5	55,052	828	6,510	69.5	93.7

\* For jurisdiction of courts see pages

\*\* As shown in Table 11, some judicial districts received appreciable help from visiting circuit judges, circuit judges pro tempore and district court judges. The amount of this help is computed by dividing the days of help received in excess of the days of help given by the number of judicial working days (252) in 1975. The result added to the number of resident judges produces the number of judges shown in the sixth column.

\*\*\* New judgeship created October 1, 1975.

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

The number of cases filed in 1975 was eighty-six percent higher than in 1966. The average rate of increase, computed from the annual increases over the ten-year period, is 7.2 percent. The 1974 caseload grew 13.4 percent over the 1973 level, the largest increase over the last ten years. The 1975 caseload increased only eight percent.

Some of the increase may be attributed to population growth. The circuit court filings, however, are growing at a faster rate than the population. The 1970 ratio of population to cases filed was one case to every fifty-five people. The 1975 ratio is one case to every forty-two individuals. The causes of increased filings must be more deeply rooted in our social and economic society. Population increases are only one factor.

**TABLE 13  
COMPARATIVE TABLE TOTAL CASES FILED PER YEAR**

Judicial District	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
<b>First</b>										
Jackson	1,289	1,387	1,308	1,417	1,493	1,686	1,829	2,052	2,606	2,593
Josephine	492	449	498	490	521	577	652	677	706	752
Totals	1,781	1,836	1,806	1,907	2,014	2,263	2,481	2,729	3,312	3,345
<b>Second</b>										
Lane	3,146	3,208	3,351	3,443	4,279	4,302	4,329	4,738	5,432	5,684
<b>Third</b>										
Marion	1,843	1,967	2,082	2,138	2,424	3,045	3,142	3,815	4,944	4,979
<b>Fourth</b>										
Multnomah	10,506	11,321	12,208	12,821	13,804	13,723	14,028	14,662	15,922	17,419
<b>Fifth</b>										
Clackamas	1,571	1,685	1,708	1,710	2,128	2,213	2,427	2,932	3,334	3,567
<b>Sixth</b>										
Morrow	54	75	53	52	55	66	56	54	77	104
Umatilla	664	774	729	590	723	802	774	826	858	963
Totals	718	849	782	642	778	868	830	880	935	1,067
<b>Seventh</b>										
Hood River	167	152	136	158	162	202	170	213	267	292
Sherman	-	34	37	27	41	53	48	49	51	85
Wasco	298	292	257	298	335	350	378	358	396	505
Totals	465	478*	430*	483*	538*	605*	596*	620*	714*	882*
<b>Eighth</b>										
Baker	206	232	226	227	259	264	318	314	322	357
<b>Ninth</b>										
Harney	119	133	175	134	143	152	153	139	117	145
Malheur	472	306	379	334	361	349	421	424	364	350
Totals	591	439	554	468	504	501	574	563	481	495
<b>Tenth</b>										
Union	241	229	253	292	296	416	382	467	417	459
Wallowa	146	123	108	107	124	114	119	141	127	169
Totals	387	352	361	399	420	530	501	608	544	628
<b>Eleventh</b>										
Crook	-	203	205	210	258	292	294	270	296	301
Deschutes	-	437	409	462	500	558	608	675	851	1,002
Gilliam	51	39	25	20	48	26	38	35	21	31
Grant	170	203	179	171	215	263	236	233	227	256
Jefferson	-	249	184	217	240	238	208	246	227	337
Sherman	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wheeler	25	28	37	19	26	30	27	36	32	41
Totals	287	1,159**	1,039**	1,099**	1,287**	1,407**	1,411**	1,495**	1,652**	1,968**

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

**TABLE 13  
COMPARATIVE TABLE TOTAL CASES FILED PER YEAR - Continued**

Judicial District	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
<b>Twelfth</b>										
Polk	318	314	307	316	410	423	469	493	528	599
Yamhill	370	402	387	421	521	570	637	671	780	739
Totals	688	716	694	737	931	993	1,106	1,164	1,308	1,338
<b>Thirteenth</b>										
Klamath	679	745	708	818	838	940	929	906	1,024	1,399
<b>Fourteenth</b>										
Lake	89	121	86	94	115	134	118	137	151	122
<b>Fifteenth</b>										
Coos	800	823	814	826	858	910	1,077	1,157	1,340	1,502
Curry	200	172	164	146	200	227	224	250	236	261
Totals	1,000	995	978	972	1,058	1,137	1,301	1,407	1,576	1,763
<b>Sixteenth</b>										
Douglas	1,056	1,071	1,110	1,117	1,253	1,450	1,619	1,632	1,993	2,081
<b>Seventeenth (a)</b>										
Lincoln	-	-	-	-	-	-	493	575	723	712
<b>Eighteenth</b>										
Crook	204	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deschutes	376	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jefferson	171	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	751	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
<b>Nineteenth</b>										
Clatsop	437	448	443	436	460	512	454	491	599	612
Columbia	351	370	419	447	533	556	534	531	654	720
Tillamook	252	272	250	259	274	288	389	388	378	398
Totals	1,040	1,090	1,112	1,142	1,267	1,356	1,377	1,410	1,631	1,730
<b>Twentieth</b>										
Washington	1,208	1,322	1,322	1,600	1,860	1,908	2,139	2,351	2,673	3,063
<b>Twenty-first</b>										
Benton	376	401	405	450	518	612	680	759	802	749
Lincoln	449	445	438	481	446	454	-	-	-	-
Linn	731	743	785	853	1,004	1,085	1,141	1,246	1,514	1,704
Totals	1,556	1,589	1,628	1,784	1,968	2,151	1,821(a)	2,005(a)	2,316(a)	2,453(a)
Statewide Totals	29,568	31,175	32,185	33,601	37,725	39,790	41,540	44,943	50,987	55,052

\* Includes total filings in Sherman County.

\*\* Includes total filings in Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson counties, excludes total filings in Sherman County.

\*\*\* See Eleventh Judicial District.

(a) New Judicial District composed of Lincoln County created September 9, 1971.

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

At the end of 1975 there were 6,757 decedents' estates pending in the circuit, district and county courts. This is a decrease of four percent from the 7,106 cases pending at the end of 1974. This continues a long trend of a declining number of decedents' estates pending at the end of each year. The average rate of decline has been 4.6 percent since 1970. This decline in estates pending is remarkable in the face of the increases in the civil and criminal pending caseloads in 1975.

While the percentage of decedents' estates pending over three years is a relatively low 10.8 percent, there are still six courts reporting over twenty percent of the pending cases above the three-year level. Additional efforts are needed in these courts to reduce this aged backlog below the twenty percent level.

**TABLE 14**  
**PERCENTAGE OF DECEDENTS' ESTATES PENDING OVER THREE YEARS**  
**December 31, 1975**

Judicial District	Court Handling Decedents' Estates	Estates Filed	Estates Pending 12-31-75	Pending Over 3 Yr.	% Over 3 Years
<b>First</b>					
Jackson	Circuit	206	265	25	9.4
Josephine	Circuit	99	164	28	17.1
<b>Second</b>					
Lane	Circuit	338	431	28	6.5
<b>Third</b>					
Marion	Circuit	356	533	92	17.3
<b>Fourth</b>					
Multnomah	Circuit	1,576	2,052	129	6.3
<b>Fifth</b>					
Clackamas	Circuit	288	390	28	7.2
<b>Sixth</b>					
Morrow	Circuit	10	18	1	5.6
Umatilla	Circuit	117	164	3	1.8
<b>Seventh</b>					
Hood River	Circuit	26	65	12	18.5
Sherman	County	8	20	3	15.
Wasco	Circuit	63	106	22	20.8
<b>Eighth</b>					
Baker	Circuit	51	87	11	12.6
<b>Ninth</b>					
Harney	County	18	47	11	23.4
Malheur	County	59	121	36	27.8
<b>Tenth</b>					
Union	Circuit	32	52	6	11.5
Wallowa	Circuit	25	29	1	3.4

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

**TABLE 14**  
**PERCENTAGE OF DECEDENTS' ESTATES PENDING OVER THREE YEARS - Continued**  
**December 31, 1975**

Judicial District	Court Handling Decedents' Estates	Estates Filed	Estates Pending 12-31-75	Pending Over 3 Yr.	% Over 3 Years
<b>Eleventh</b>					
Crook	Circuit	29	39	0	0
Deschutes	Circuit	81	92	4	4.3
Gilliam	County	8	11	0	0
Grant	County	22	54	30	55.6
Jefferson	Circuit	15	17	0	0
Wheeler	County	2	5	1	20.
<b>Twelfth</b>					
Polk	Circuit	74	91	5	5.5
Yamhill	Circuit	85	122	7	5.7
<b>Thirteenth</b>					
Klamath	Circuit	133	217	26	12.
<b>Fourteenth</b>					
Lake	Circuit	34	43	5	11.6
<b>Fifteenth</b>					
Coos	Circuit	52	168	24	14.3
Curry	Circuit	42	66	10	15.2
<b>Sixteenth</b>					
Douglas	Circuit	148	202	21	10.4
<b>Seventeenth</b>					
Lincoln	Circuit	68	103	27	26.2
<b>Nineteenth</b>					
Clatsop	Circuit	66	116	17	14.7
Columbia	Circuit	57	95	18	18.9
Tillamook	Circuit	49	67	7	10.4
<b>Twentieth</b>					
Washington	Circuit	255	369	42	11.4
<b>Twenty-first</b>					
Benton	Circuit	94	123	2	1.6
Linn	Circuit	120	213	45	21.1
Statewide Totals		4,706	6,757	727	10.8

CIRCUIT COURTS

The percentage of decedents' estates pending over three years has declined for the fifth succeeding year. It may be anticipated that next year will show another decline in this statistic. Indeed, since 1962, when this statistic was first reported, there has been an almost steady decline from the 49.8 percent reported that year.

Few subjects in the civil law prompt more criticism of the courts than the length of time required to close a decedent's estate. This circumstance was the vehicle on which Charles Dickens constructed Bleak House, in which he gave the quintessential description of an ancient estate. The case was Jarndyce and Jarndyce.

"Jarndyce and Jarndyce drones on. This scarecrow of a suit has, in course of time, become so complicated, that no man alive knows what it means. The parties to it understand it least; but it has been observed that no two Chancery lawyers can talk about it for five minutes, without coming to a total disagreement as to all the premises. Innumerable children have been born into the cause; innumerable young people have married into it; innumerable old people have died out of it. Scores of persons have deliriously found themselves made parties in Jarndyce and Jarndyce, without knowing how or why; whole families have inherited legendary hatreds with the suit. The little plaintiff or defendant, who was promised a new rocking-horse when Jarndyce and Jarndyce should be settled, has grown up, possessed himself a real horse, and trotted away into the other world. Fair wards of court have faded into mothers and grand-mothers; a long procession of Chancellors has come in and gone out; the legion of bills in the suit have been transformed into mere bills of mortality; there are not three Jarndyces left upon the earth perhaps, since old Tom Jarndyce in despair blew his brains out at a coffee-house in Chancery Lane; but Jarndyce and Jarndyce still drags its dreary length before the Court, preennially hopeless."

TABLE 15

COMPARATIVE TABLE  
PERCENTAGE OF DECEDENTS' ESTATES PENDING OVER THREE YEARS

Judicial District	% Over 3 Years 12-31-71	% Over 3 Years 12-31-72	% Over 3 Years 12-31-73	% Over 3 Years 12-31-74	% Over 3 Years 12-31-75
<b>First (a)</b>					
Jackson	13.3	13.4	13.3	9.3	9.4
Josephine	19.6	24.4	26.2	21.1	17.1
<b>Second (a)</b>					
Lane	8.7	9.3	7.1	9.	6.5
<b>Third (a)</b>					
Marion	12.9	19.4	13.2	18.	17.3
<b>Fourth (a)</b>					
Multnomah	5.8	6.2	6.4	6.4	6.3
<b>Fifth (a)</b>					
Clackamas	5.4	5.7	5.1	6.	7.2
<b>Sixth</b>					
Morrow (c)	7.4	0	0	11.1	5.6
Umatilla (a)	2.4	2.8	.8	.7	1.8
<b>Seventh</b>					
Hood River (c)	45.7	50.	46.2	32.6	18.5
Sherman (b)	27.6	26.1	10.7	11.1	15.
Wasco (c)	42.5	46.6	42.9	29.6	20.8
<b>Eighth (a)</b>					
Baker	10.3	6.6	7.	10.8	12.6
<b>Ninth (b)</b>					
Harney	15.9	17.9	11.6	3.9	23.4
Malheur	28.	30.9	27.3	28.2	27.8
<b>Tenth (c)</b>					
Union	65.8	60.5	7.2	22.4	11.5
Wallowa	57.4	55.4	17.8	32.7	3.4

CIRCUIT COURTS

TABLE 15

PERCENTAGE OF DECEDENTS' ESTATES PENDING OVER THREE YEARS - Continued

Judicial District	% Over 3 Years 12-31-71	% Over 3 Years 12-31-72	% Over 3 Years 12-31-73	% Over 3 Years 12-31-74	% Over 3 Years 12-31-75
<b>Eleventh</b>					
Crook (a)	0	0	0	2.6	0
Deschutes (a)	3.9	3.7	1.9	1.2	4.3
Gilliam (b)	10.	12.5	12.5	10.	0
Grant (b)	48.3	57.6	58.8	59.4	55.6
Jefferson (a)	0	10.5	5.9	7.7	0
Wheeler (b)	57.1	44.4	14.3	12.5	20.
<b>Twelfth (a)</b>					
Polk	29.2	29.3	26.1	12.2	5.5
Yamhill	33.3	24.	12.8	8.4	5.7
<b>Thirteenth (a)</b>					
Klamath	20.3	22.1	19.4	15.5	12.
<b>Fourteenth (a)</b>					
Lake	18.9	9.1	10.4	15.1	11.6
<b>Fifteenth (c)</b>					
Coos	17.2	14.3	18.4	14.9	14.3
Curry	32.9	41.3	34.8	33.8	15.2
<b>Sixteenth (a)</b>					
Douglas	11.6	5.6	9.6	13.6	10.4
<b>Seventeenth (c)</b>					
Lincoln	56.3	46.	56.7	37.7	26.2
<b>Nineteenth (a)</b>					
Clatsop	35.2	23.6	17.4	17.1	14.7
Columbia	31.4	23.9	26.8	18.6	18.9
Tillamook	25.	22.3	15.4	13.5	10.4
<b>Twentieth (c)</b>					
Washington	8.1	7.5	8.5	10.	11.4
<b>Twenty-first</b>					
Benton (c)	19.5	20.8	18.2	4.	1.6
Linn (a)	40.3	20.2	21.7	18.2	21.1
<b>Statewide Percentages</b>	18.8	16.6	14.5	12.5	10.8

(a) Circuit court has probate jurisdiction.  
 (b) County court has probate jurisdiction.  
 (c) Circuit court assumed probate jurisdiction July 1, 1970, but see second column. Table 14 for district courts handling probate.

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

The number of guardianships and conservatorships filed in 1975 decreased five percent from the 1,663 cases filed in 1974. The number of cases terminated decreased thirty-two percent from 2,578 to 1,761 terminations. There was a two percent decrease in cases pending at the end of the year.

**TABLE 16**  
**GUARDIANSHIPS AND CONSERVATORSHIPS FILED, CLOSED AND PENDING**  
**1975**

Judicial District	Court Handling Jurisdiction	No. Pending 12-31-74	Number Filed	Number Terminated	No. Pending 12-31-75	Annual Reports Filed
<b>First</b>						
Jackson	Circuit	314	75	84	305	174
Josephine	Circuit	162	43	30	175	76
<b>Second</b>						
Lane	Circuit	700	129	132	697	535
<b>Third</b>						
Marion	Circuit	774	112	103	783	309
<b>Fourth</b>						
Multnomah	Circuit	2,482	492	635	2,339	1,176
<b>Fifth</b>						
Clackamas	Circuit	512	140	93	559	236
<b>Sixth</b>						
Morrow	Circuit	88	3	1	90	12
Umatilla	Circuit	314	20	20	314	64
<b>Seventh</b>						
Hood River	Circuit	107	9	4	112	11
Sherman	County	10	0	1	9	5
Wasco	Circuit	98	21	13	106	22
<b>Eighth</b>						
Baker	Circuit	39	11	11	39	17
<b>Ninth</b>						
Harney	County	32	10	9	33	0
Malheur	County	73	8	10	71	23
<b>Tenth</b>						
Union	Circuit	42	9	27	24	10
Wallowa	Circuit	19	5	4	20	26
<b>Eleventh</b>						
Crook	Circuit	33	6	6	33	8
Deschutes	Circuit	108	25	24	109	55
Gilliam	County	4	1	1	4	2
Grant	County	26	8	12	22	3
Jefferson	Circuit	23	5	8	20	11
Wheeler	County	17	1	0	18	0

**CIRCUIT COURTS**

**TABLE 16**

**GUARDIANSHIPS AND CONSERVATORSHIPS, FILED, CLOSED AND PENDING - Continued**

Judicial District	Court Handling Jurisdiction	No. Pending 12-31-74	Number Filed	Number Terminated	No. Pending 12-31-75	Annual Reports Filed
<b>Twelfth</b>						
Polk	Circuit	76	27	16	87	109
Yamhill	Circuit	116	25	25	116	106
<b>Thirteenth</b>						
Klamath	Circuit	273	70	76	267	191
<b>Fourteenth</b>						
Lake	Circuit	47	9	21	35	10
<b>Fifteenth</b>						
Coos	Circuit	176	33	48	161	65
Curry	Circuit	59	4	15	48	11
<b>Sixteenth</b>						
Douglas	Circuit	348	51	66	333	165
<b>Seventeenth</b>						
Lincoln	Circuit	85	17	34	68	24
<b>Nineteenth</b>						
Clatsop	Circuit	150	24	14	160	53
Columbia	Circuit	147	13	23	137	42
Tillamook	Circuit	53	9	9	53	35
<b>Twentieth</b>						
Washington	Circuit	436	74	92	418	106
<b>Twenty-first</b>						
Benton	Circuit	125	42	37	130	55
Linn	Circuit	298	48	57	289	66
Statewide Totals		8,366	1,579	1,761	8,184	3,813

CIRCUIT COURTS

The number of juvenile petitions filed in 1975 increased 7.6 percent, or 821 cases. The number of juvenile petitions filed, however, does not represent the total number of cases entering the juvenile system. Cases may enter and exit the juvenile justice system without a petition being filed. These cases are processed by the juvenile departments within each county and are not serious enough to bring the child formally before the juvenile court.

TABLE 17  
JUVENILE PETITIONS FILED  
January 1, 1975 - December 31, 1975

Judicial District	Court Handling Jurisdiction	Petitions Filed
<b>First</b>		
Jackson	Circuit	494
Josephine	Circuit	166
<b>Second</b>		
Lane	Circuit	930
<b>Third</b>		
Marion	Circuit	1,183
<b>Fourth</b>		
Multnomah	Circuit	3,333
<b>Fifth</b>		
Clackamas	Circuit	485
<b>Sixth</b>		
Morrow	County	33
Umatilla	Circuit	399
<b>Seventh</b>		
Hood River	Circuit	39
Sherman	County	2
Wasco	Circuit	155
<b>Eighth</b>		
Baker	Circuit	173
<b>Ninth</b>		
Harney	County	9
Malheur	Circuit	112
<b>Tenth</b>		
Union	Circuit	204
Wallowa*	Circuit	47
<b>Eleventh</b>		
Crook	County	125
Deschutes	Circuit	99
Gilliam	County	10
Grant	Circuit	71
Jefferson	County	69
Wheeler	County	15

CIRCUIT COURTS

TABLE 17  
JUVENILE PETITIONS FILED - Continued  
January 1, 1975 - December 31, 1975

Judicial District	Court Handling Jurisdiction	Petitions Filed
<b>Twelfth</b>		
Polk	Circuit	226
Yamhill	Circuit	309
<b>Thirteenth</b>		
Klamath	Circuit	604
<b>Fourteenth</b>		
Lake	Circuit	131
<b>Fifteenth</b>		
Coos	Circuit	317
Curry	Circuit	113
<b>Sixteenth</b>		
Douglas	Circuit	426
<b>Seventeenth</b>		
Lincoln	Circuit	98
<b>Nineteenth</b>		
Clatsop	Circuit	93
Columbia	Circuit	178
Tillamook	Circuit	37
<b>Twentieth</b>		
Washington	Circuit	462
<b>Twenty-first</b>		
Benton	Circuit	209
Linn	Circuit	212
<b>Total</b>		<b>11,568</b>

\* Circuit court assumed jurisdiction July 1, 1975.

# DISTRICT COURTS

## DISTRICT COURT JUDGES<sup>1</sup> As of December 31, 1975

County	Name	City
Benton	Robert L. Gilliland (resigned November 10, 1975)	Corvallis
	David L. Smedema (assumed office November 10, 1975)	Corvallis
Clackamas	Robert M. Mulvey	Oregon City
	Charles A. Sams	Oregon City
Clatsop	George F. Cole	Astoria
Columbia	James A. Mason	St. Helens
Coos	Robert E. Jones (new judgeship created October 1, 1975)	Coquille
	Charles H. Reeves	Coquille
Curry	Sam Hall	Gold Beach
Deschutes	Joseph J. Thalhoffer	Bend
Douglas	Carl M. Felker	Roseburg
	Gerald O. Kabler	Roseburg
Hood River	John F. Cushman	Hood River
Jackson	Ross G. Davis	Medford
	L.A. Merryman	Medford
Josephine	Laurence A. Cushing	Grants Pass
Klamath	Theodore D. Abram (new judgeship created October 1, 1975. Judge Abram appointed to circuit court November 26, 1975)	Klamath Falls
	Wayne H. Blair	Klamath Falls
	Gary A. Knutson (assumed office December 30, 1975)	Klamath Falls
	Frank R. Alderson	Eugene
Lane	Wm. A. Beckett (appointed to circuit court October 1, 1975)	Eugene
	James R. Hargreaves (assumed office October 1, 1975)	Eugene
	Bryan T. Hodges (new judgeship created October 1, 1975)	Eugene
	Winfred K. Liepe	Eugene
	A.R. McMullen	Newport
Linn	Carl G. Stanley	Albany

# DISTRICT COURTS

## DISTRICT COURT JUDGES<sup>1</sup> - Continued As of December 31, 1975

County	Name	City
Marion	Clarke C. Brown (new judgeship created October 1, 1975)	Salem
	Thomas W. Hansen	Salem
	Albin W. Norblad	Salem
Multnomah	Philip T. Abraham	Portland
	Philip M. Bagley	Portland
	William C. Beers	Portland
	Aaron Brown, Jr.	Portland
	Anthony L. Casciato	Portland
	Shirley A. Field	Portland
	John F. Gantenbein (retired August 31, 1975)	Portland
	Edmund A. Jordan	Portland
	Donald H. Londer (assumed office September 5, 1975)	Portland
	Robert W. Redding	Portland
William L. Richardson	Portland	
Irving M. Steinbock	Portland	
Richard L. Unis	Portland	
Polk	Walter W. Foster	Dallas
Umatilla	Richard J. Courson	Pendleton
Union-Wallowa*	James A. Monce	La Grande
Wasco	James C. Donnell	The Dalles
Washington	Donald C. Asmanskas (new judgeship created October 1, 1975)	Hillsboro
	Karl W. Freerksen (assumed office January 6, 1975)	Hillsboro
	Harold A. Lewis	Hillsboro
	Gregory E. Milnes (appointed to circuit court January 6, 1975)	Hillsboro
Yamhill	Donald R. Blensly	McMinnville

<sup>1</sup> The 1975 Legislature increased the number of district judges by eight and created one new district court. Lane County received two additional judges and Coos, Josephine, Klamath, Marion, Washington and the new combined Union-Wallowa District Court, each received one judge. All positions were filled in September and October, 1975, except Josephine County's and Lane County's second position. These positions become effective in July, 1976.

\* New district court created July 1, 1975; commenced operation September 1, 1975.

DISTRICT COURTS

TABLE 1  
TOTAL CASES FILED AND TERMINATED  
FILINGS  
1975

The 457,687 cases filed in the district courts in 1975 represent an 8,077 case increase, two percent, over 1974 filings. Eight district courts recorded a decline in filings in 1975. These eight courts commonly share a decrease in the number of traffic offenses and civil cases filed during the year. All district courts show a contraction in civil filings, with the exception of Coos County and the new Union-Wallowa District Court. Total civil filings show a twenty-eight percent drop.

The composition of cases filed is dominated by traffic offenses. These cases made up seventy-eight percent of the filings. Small claims cases were 9.4 percent of the filings, misdemeanors 6.3 percent, civil cases 4.7 percent, and felony cases 1.6 percent.

County	Traffic	Misde-meanor	Felony	Civil	Small Claims	Total
1. Multnomah	89,035	6,659	2,084	8,865	14,553	121,196
2. Klamath	12,812	1,014	240	852	1,188	16,106
3. Lincoln	6,239	830	144	208	436	7,857
4. Columbia	5,534	208	54	191	477	6,464
5. Yamhill	8,056	498	140	435	997	10,126
6. Clatsop	7,291	800	119	171	815	9,196
7. Deschutes	6,797	569	205	495	799	8,865
8. Wasco	8,627	742	145	133	547	10,194
9. Curry	1,512	325	48	70	198	2,153
10. Clackamas	16,605	1,248	301	1,428	1,851	21,433
11. Hood River	7,168	490	70	72	157	7,957
12. Douglas	21,949	773	449	842	2,051	26,064
13. Linn	9,216	964	469	553	1,491	12,693
14. Umatilla	9,291	721	171	285	895	11,363
15. Polk	5,525	555	186	229	373	6,868
16. Josephine	14,029	824	184	411	776	16,224
17. Coos	10,276	1,187	272	340	1,516	13,591
18. Marion	27,683	2,104	26	1,748	2,112	33,673
19. Union-	3,554)	208)	34)	39)	116)	3,951)
Wallowa	247)	46)	0)	10)	0)	303)
20. Benton	6,453	841	150	207	771	8,422
21. Washington	19,310	1,791	604	1,324	2,515	25,544
22. Jackson	28,773	2,646	385	896	2,409	35,109
23. Lane	30,698	2,896	860	1,712	6,169	42,335
Totals	356,680	28,939	7,340	21,516	43,212	457,687

DISTRICT COURTS

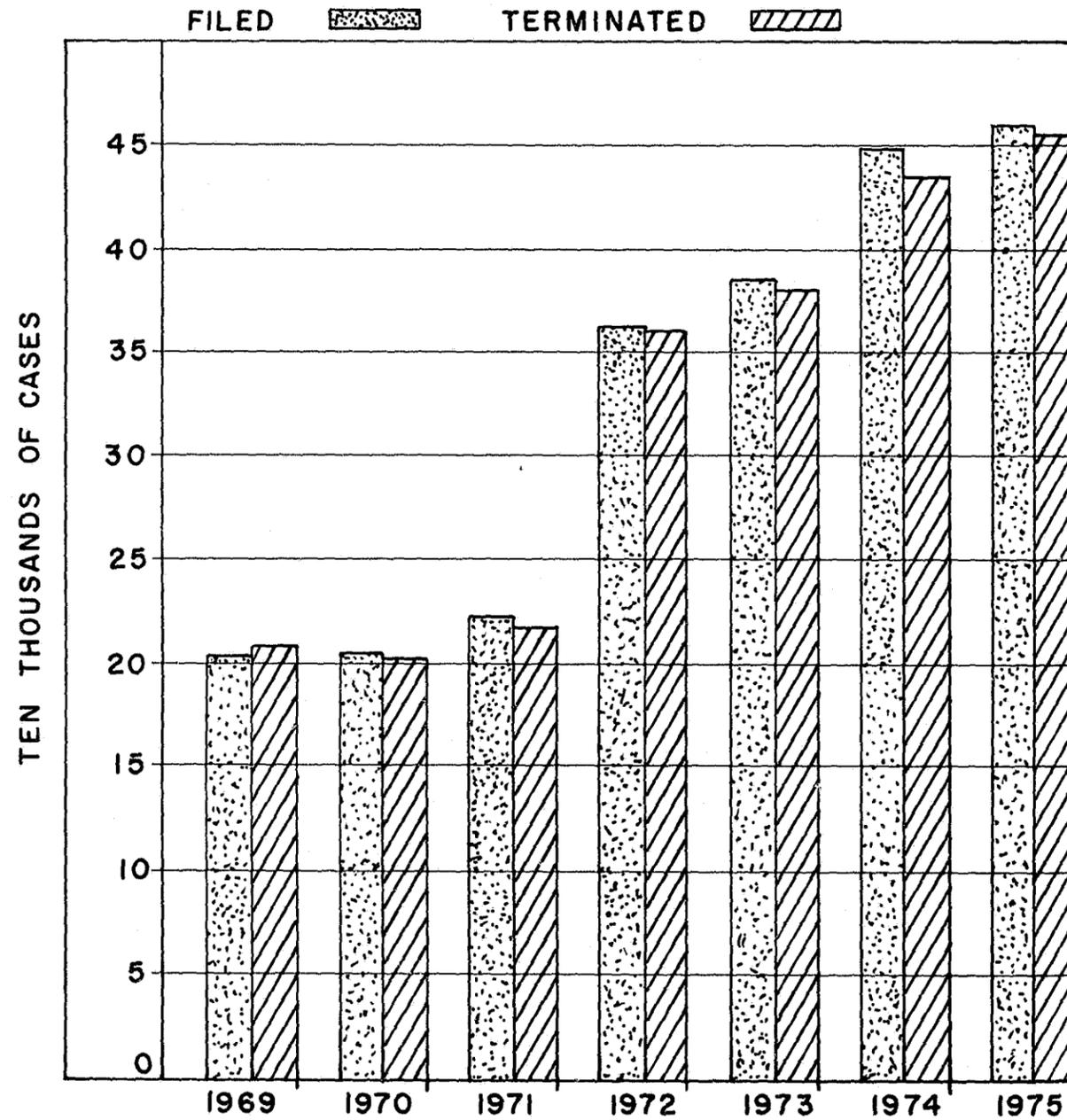
TABLE 1  
TOTAL CASES FILED AND TERMINATED  
TERMINATIONS  
1975

The 452,172 cases terminated represents an increase of 18,162 more than in 1974. This is a four percent increase in terminations. The number of cases closed increased in all district courts except Benton, Klamath, Lane, Lincoln, Multnomah and Polk Counties. The overall increase in terminations absorbed most of the cases filed. The number of cases pending at the end of the year grew by 5,515 cases.

County	Traffic	Misde-meanor	Felony	Civil	Small Claims	Total	-Backlog- Increase (+) Decrease (-)
1. Multnomah	91,857	6,716	2,112	9,198	13,897	123,780	- 2,584
2. Klamath	13,050	1,135	243	1,087	1,167	16,682	- 576
3. Lincoln	6,427	993	140	206	488	8,254	- 397
4. Columbia	5,779	189	68	225	552	6,813	- 349
5. Yamhill	8,039	485	141	640	1,108	10,413	- 287
6. Clatsop	7,496	790	119	258	800	9,463	- 267
7. Deschutes	6,834	561	195	648	815	9,053	- 188
8. Wasco	8,670	756	165	170	612	10,373	- 179
9. Curry	1,620	317	53	92	239	2,321	- 168
10. Clackamas	16,536	1,184	304	1,607	1,941	21,572	- 139
11. Hood River	7,278	487	74	75	158	8,072	- 115
12. Douglas	21,963	737	450	972	2,046	26,168	- 104
13. Linn	9,050	1,122	478	560	1,536	12,746	- 53
14. Umatilla	9,203	729	133	387	945	11,397	- 34
15. Polk	5,517	571	177	234	381	6,880	- 12
16. Josephine	13,932	826	199	457	790	16,204	+ 20
17. Coos	10,072	1,178	287	341	1,600	13,478	+ 113
18. Marion	27,404	2,041	29	1,744	2,129	33,347	+ 326
19. Union -	3,093)	175)	30)	50)	66)	3,414)	+ 537)
Wallowa	197)	30)	0)	4)	0)	231)	+ 72)
20. Benton	5,295	830	130	240	1,003	7,498	+ 924
21. Washington	18,090	1,800	661	1,499	2,299	24,349	+ 1,195
22. Jackson	27,021	2,505	423	907	2,475	33,331	+ 1,778
23. Lane	26,071	2,967	830	1,777	4,688	36,333	+ 6,002
Totals	350,494	29,124	7,441	23,378	41,735	452,172	+ 5,515

DISTRICT COURT CASES  
FILED AND TERMINATED

1969 - 1975



DISTRICT COURTS

TABLE 2

COMPARATIVE TABLE  
TOTAL CASES FILED PER YEAR

The number of cases filed in the district courts in 1975 was one hundred and twenty-five percent higher than 1969. The increase is the result of the consolidation of the City of Portland Municipal Court with the Multnomah County District Court in 1972, the addition of new district courts in 1973 and 1975, and generally higher filings since 1971. The 1972 filings were sixty-five percent higher than 1971, largely due to the consolidation in Multnomah County. And, this was followed by increases of 5.3 and seventeen percent for the years 1973 and 1974, respectively. The small two percent increase in 1975 represents a significant change.

County	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
1. Multnomah	43,169	39,756	43,175	138,902*	122,388	131,404	121,196
2. Lane	23,179	26,119	24,481	27,360	30,564	39,422	42,335
3. Jackson	12,787	14,621	16,998	19,506	23,849	32,373	35,109
4. Marion	11,832	11,371	13,557	22,837	32,343	33,002	33,673
5. Douglas	12,329	11,269	11,836	14,558	18,730	24,941	26,064
6. Washington	11,976	13,029	16,056	19,111	19,221	22,422	25,544
7. Clackamas	13,719	13,302	13,592	16,306	20,601	19,636	21,433
8. Josephine	7,243	5,975	8,523	10,964	12,931	15,178	16,224
9. Klamath	9,020	8,702	11,120	16,144	14,928	17,474	16,106
10. Coos	8,652	9,429	10,243	12,850	13,718	13,014	13,591
11. Linn	6,041	6,274	6,338	8,329	8,789	11,501	12,693
12. Umatilla	5,790	7,513	7,623	8,679	9,109	10,677	11,363
13. Wasco	3,309	3,859	4,482	6,492	3,803	10,045	10,194
14. Yamhill	5,388	4,831	5,983	6,140	7,437	8,774	10,126
15. Clatsop	7,600	7,569	6,942	7,570	7,490	9,753	9,196
16. Deschutes	4,007	3,265	3,513	5,188	6,228	7,946	8,865
17. Benton	3,764	3,790	4,090	5,265	6,697	8,569	8,422
18. Hood River	2,337	2,425	2,260	3,287	3,066	7,771	7,957
19. Lincoln	5,135	4,839	4,872	7,422	7,990	9,047	7,857
20. Polk	4,438	3,678	4,133	6,523	6,503	7,598	6,868
21. Columbia**	-	-	-	-	6,017	6,632	6,464
22. Union - Wallowa***	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,951)
23. Curry	1,210	1,396	1,232	1,385	-	-	303)
Totals	202,925	203,012	221,049	364,818	384,131	449,610	457,687

\* City of Portland Municipal Court consolidated with Multnomah County District Court.

\*\* New district court created January 1, 1973

\*\*\* New district court created July 1, 1975; commenced operations September 1, 1975.

DISTRICT COURTS

TABLE 3  
TOTAL CASES FILED AND TERMINATED  
PER JUDGE  
1975

The number of cases filed per judge in the district courts is a good measure of workload and its increase each year. In 1975 there were 11,002 cases filed per judge. This is a decrease of two percent over the 1974 filings of 11,240 cases. The number of cases terminated per judge, an indication of how well the district courts handled the workload, increased by 20 cases, from 10,850 to 10,870 cases. In addition to the 41.6 regular judges, there was a substantial amount of pro tempore assistance used during the year. In 1975 there were 1,950.5 days of pro tempore help given to the district courts. This number of working days of help is the equivalent of seven and three-quarter fulltime judges. Much of this temporary help went to courts that had been granted an additional judicial position in 1975, but did not become effective until October.

County	Cases Filed Per Judge	Cases Terminated Per Judge	Days of Pro Tem Help Received
Benton	8,422	7,498	35
Clackamas (2 judges)	10,717	10,786	5.5
Clatsop	9,196	9,463	20
Columbia	6,464	6,813	12
Coos (1.25 judges)*	10,873	10,782	133.5
Curry	2,153	2,321	5.5
Deschutes	8,865	9,053	22.5
Douglas (2 judges)	13,032	13,084	3.5
Hood River	7,957	8,072	4
Jackson (2 judges)	17,555	16,666	15.5
Josephine	16,224	16,204	10
Klamath (1.25)*	12,885	13,346	198.5
Lane (3.25 judges)*	13,026	11,179	286.5
Lincoln	7,857	8,254	0
Linn	12,693	12,746	96.5
Marion (2.25 judges)*	14,966	14,821	151
Multnomah (12 judges)	10,100	10,315	704
Polk	6,868	6,880	32
Umatilla	11,363	11,397	2
Union - Wallowa (.33 judge)**	3,951) 303)	3,414) 231)	0) 0)
Wasco	10,194	10,373	13.5
Washington (2.25 judges)*	11,352	10,823	188.5
Yamhill	10,126	10,413	11
Total			1,950.5
Statewide Totals	457,687	452,172	
(41.6 judges)	11,002	10,870	

\* New judgeship created October 1, 1975.

\*\* New district court created July 1, 1975; commenced operations September 1, 1975.

DISTRICT COURTS

TABLE 4  
PERCENTAGE OF ALL TRAFFIC, MISDEMEANOR AND FELONY CASES  
PENDING MORE THAN ONE YEAR

The age of pending criminal cases, traffic offenses, misdemeanors, and felonies, represents a major index of the efficiency of a trial court. The high percentage of these cases that are less than one year old demonstrates the ability of the district court judges to keep their dockets current. Eighty-four percent of the pending criminal cases are less than six months old, and 94.2 percent less than one year old. The 5.8 percent pending over one year must be considered in light of the not-uncommon failure of the defendant to appear in cases involving traffic offenses and other minor criminal matters. These cases remain on the court's docket pending the arrest of the defendant. The number and percentage of these cases pending longer than one year has increased from 2,396, 4.4 percent of the caseload, in 1974.

County	Cases Pending 12-31-75	Less Than 6 Mo.	6 Mo. to 1 Year	Over 1 Yr.	% Over 1 Yr.
1. Curry	114	110	4	0	0
2. Multnomah	18,812	17,798	973	41	.02
3. Washington	4,394	3,679	714	1	.02
4. Clackamas	2,387	2,131	218	38	1.6
5. Union - Wallowa	1,377) 66)	1,306) 66)	47) 0)	24) 0)	1.7) 0)
6. Douglas	2,742	2,436	249	57	2.1
7. Umatilla	658	495	137	26	4.
8. Yamhill	803	675	94	34	4.2
9. Jackson	5,856	4,811	739	306	5.2
10. Wasco	1,201	942	192	67	5.6
11. Josephine	1,328	1,016	199	113	8.5
12. Hood River	679	551	69	59	8.7
13. Benton	2,256	1,741	298	217	9.6
14. Marion	3,246	2,587	341	318	9.8
15. Lane	6,987	5,551	735	701	10.
16. Coos	1,582	1,114	300	168	10.6
17. Deschutes	259	199	32	28	10.8
18. Linn	1,569	1,215	138	216	13.8
19. Clatsop	1,186	845	172	169	14.2
20. Polk	581	441	51	89	15.3
21. Lincoln	1,329	1,010	104	215	16.2
22. Klamath	1,557	798	359	400	25.7
23. Columbia	1,035	600	141	294	28.4
Totals	62,004	52,117	6,306	3,581	5.8

DISTRICT COURTS

TABLE 5

PERCENTAGE OF ALL CIVIL CASES PENDING MORE THAN ONE YEAR

The 11,435 civil cases pending in the district courts at the conclusion of 1975 was a sixteen percent decrease from the 1974 level of 13,605 cases. This decline in the number of cases pending reflects the drop in the number of civil filings in 1975. Despite this subsidence, the age of civil cases pending increased. The distribution of pending cases by age in 1974 showed 53.4 percent pending less than six months, and 85.6 percent pending one year or less. The 1975 data show 48.5 percent pending less than six months and 78.5 percent at one year or less. The number of cases pending over one year has increased twenty-five percent, from 1,964 to 2,461.

County	Cases Pending 12-31-75	Less Than 6 Mo.	6 Mo. to 1 Year	Over 1 Yr.	% Over 1 Yr.
1. Coos	131	109	22	0	0
2. Curry	8	8	0	0	0
3. Union - Wallowa	38) 6)	28) 6)	10) 0)	0) 0)	0) 0)
4. Lane	1,239	226	473	540	4.4
5. Washington	524	325	174	25	4.8
6. Umatilla	101	78	14	9	8.9
7. Wasco	27	15	8	4	14.8
8. Multnomah	4,843	2,667	1,419	757	15.6
9. Linn	267	140	81	46	17.2
10. Clackamas	898	461	275	162	18.
11. Marion	843	468	218	157	18.6
12. Hood River	42	21	13	8	19.
13. Douglas	438	197	157	84	19.2
14. Deschutes	246	115	77	54	22.
15. Lincoln	141	49	57	35	24.8
16. Josephine	188	100	37	51	27.1
17. Klamath	206	91	55	60	29.1
18. Clatsop	87	35	24	28	32.2
19. Yamhill	128	56	30	42	32.8
20. Jackson	562	199	160	203	36.1
21. Polk	139	43	44	52	37.4
22. Benton	157	55	37	65	41.4
23. Columbia	176	55	42	79	44.9
	<u>11,435</u>	<u>5,547</u>	<u>3,427</u>	<u>2,461</u>	<u>21.5</u>

DISTRICT COURTS

TABLE 6

PERCENTAGE OF ALL SMALL CLAIMS CASES PENDING MORE THAN ONE YEAR

The purpose of the small claims department is to provide a forum for the expeditious adjudication of minor civil claims at a minimum cost to the litigants. The number of small claims cases pending at the conclusion of 1975 is nineteen percent higher than the 1974 level of 7,908 cases. The distribution of the age of pending cases shows more older cases pending at the end of 1975. The 1974 distribution showed eighty percent of the cases less than six months old and 94.5 less than one year old. The 1975 data show seventy-one percent of the cases pending six months or longer and 88.6 percent pending at one year or less. The number of cases pending over one year has increased 146.5 percent, from 436 to 1,075. It is worthy of notice that ten district courts have no small claims cases pending over one year.

County	Cases Pending 12-31-75	Less Than 6 Mo.	6 Mo. to 1 Year	Over 1 Yr.	% Over 1 Yr.
1. Clackamas	355	308	47	0	0
2. Clatsop	83	80	3	0	0
3. Coos	369	281	88	0	0
4. Curry	8	8	0	0	0
5. Deschutes	88	88	0	0	0
6. Hood River	21	21	0	0	0
7. Linn	231	231	0	0	0
8. Multnomah	3,068	2,947	121	0	0
9. Polk	38	8	30	0	0
10. Wasco	34	34	0	0	0
11. Washington	485	454	30	1	.2
12. Klamath	224	178	42	4	1.8
13. Yamhill	135	75	57	3	2.2
14. Lincoln	81	47	31	3	3.7
15. Columbia	73	63	7	3	4.1
16. Umatilla	116	86	22	8	6.9
17. Josephine	175	107	55	13	7.4
18. Benton	144	116	12	16	11.1
19. Douglas	664	324	266	74	11.1
20. Jackson	626	353	166	107	17.1
21. Union - Wallowa	108) 0)	55) 0)	32) 0)	21) 0)	19.4) 0)
22. Marion	632	347	159	126	19.9
23. Lane	1,681	508	477	696	41.4
Totals	<u>9,439</u>	<u>6,719</u>	<u>1,645</u>	<u>1,075</u>	<u>11.4</u>

DISTRICT COURTS

TABLE 7  
TOTAL CASES PENDING  
December 31, 1975

The analysis of all district court cases pending at the conclusion of 1975 shows that 59.9 percent were traffic, 14.9 percent misdemeanor or felony, 13.8 percent civil, and 11.4 percent small claims.

County	Traffic	Misdemeanor Felony	Civil	Small Claims	Total
1. Curry	75	39	8	8	130
2. Deschutes	175	84	246	88	593
3. Hood River	569	110	42	21	742
4. Polk	466	115	139	38	758
5. Umatilla	460	198	101	116	875
6. Yamhill	689	114	128	135	1,066
7. Wasco	1,065	136	27	34	1,262
8. Columbia	916	119	176	73	1,284
9. Clatsop	1,001	185	87	83	1,356
10. Lincoln	1,006	323	141	81	1,551
11. Union - Wallowa	1,258) 50)	119) 16)	38) 6)	108) 0)	1,523) 72)
12. Josephine	1,151	177	188	175	1,691
13. Klamath	1,335	222	206	224	1,987
14. Linn	1,215	354	267	231	2,067
15. Coos	1,220	362	131	369	2,082
16. Benton	1,889	367	157	144	2,557
17. Clackamas	2,178	209	898	355	3,640
18. Douglas	2,477	265	438	664	3,844
19. Marion	2,879	367	843	632	4,721
20. Washington	3,977	417	524	485	5,403
21. Jackson	5,085	771	562	626	7,044
22. Lane	6,259	728	1,239	1,681	9,907
23. Multnomah	12,235	6,577	4,843	3,068	26,723
Totals	49,630	12,374	11,435	9,439	82,878

DISTRICT COURTS

TABLE 8  
COMPARATIVE TABLE TOTAL CASES PENDING

The total number of cases pending at the conclusion of 1975 is eight percent higher than the 1974 level. In 1972, when the City of Portland Municipal Court was consolidated with the Multnomah County District Court, the pending caseload increased eighty-eight percent. This was followed by a 5.6 percent increase in 1973, and a twenty-six percent increase in 1974.

County	Pending 12-31-70	Pending 12-31-71	Pending 12-31-72	Pending 12-31-73	Pending 12-31-74	Pending 12-31-75
1. Curry	80	69	85	135	298	130
2. Deschutes	398	372	769	489	780	593
3. Hood River	333	295	309	442	857	742
4. Polk	275	341	557	567	770	758
5. Umatilla	612	531	810	809	909	875
6. Yamhill	641	761	845	1,067	1,353	1,066
7. Wasco	236	407	722	597	1,441	1,262
8. Columbia*	-	-	-	1,222	1,633	1,284
9. Clatsop	863	813	1,381	1,178	1,623	1,356
10. Lincoln	524	909	1,030	1,825	1,948	1,551
11. Union - Wallowa**	-	-	-	-	-	1,523) 72)
12. Josephine	643	732	919	1,173	1,671	1,691
13. Klamath	1,123	1,304	2,313	2,926	2,930	1,987
14. Linn	1,037	1,225	1,429	1,818	2,120	2,067
15. Coos	1,007	1,114	1,281	1,731	1,969	2,082
16. Benton	574	743	1,072	1,304	1,633	2,557
17. Clackamas	1,984	2,295	2,735	3,954	3,779	3,640
18. Douglas	2,433	1,588	2,162	2,586	3,948	3,844
19. Marion	1,427	1,769	3,423	3,968	4,414	4,721
20. Washington	1,788	2,112	2,849	3,567	4,208	5,403
21. Jackson	1,395	2,242	2,953	3,717	5,266	7,044
22. Lane	3,040	2,762	2,577	3,705	3,905	9,907
23. Multnomah	7,751	8,413	27,687***	22,382	29,307	26,723
Totals	28,164	30,797	57,908	61,162	76,762	82,878

\* New district court created January 1, 1973.

\*\* New district court created July 1, 1975; commenced operation September 1, 1975.

\*\*\* City of Portland Municipal Court consolidated with Multnomah County District Court.

# MUNICIPAL COURTS

## MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

Name	City
Donald P. Reiling	Albany
John H. Fuller	Amity
B. H. Allen	Arlington
Glenn H. Munsell	Ashland
Jerry K. McCallister	Astoria
C. B. Dugger	Athens
David E. Heard	Aumsville/Turner
Gregg H. Ireland	Aurora
John V. Brennan	Baker
William K. Cook	Bandon
E. M. Crossley	Bay City
Louis M. Giovanini	Beaverton
Erwin G. Nilsson	Bend
Ernabel N. Mittelsdorf	Boardman
Mary M. Beinke	Brookings
Herbert J. Dominquez	Brownsville
Kathie L. Wenick	Burns
Roger Warren	Canby
Vincent W. Curry	Cannon Beach
Ernest Smith	Canyon City
Norman Wilson	Canyonville
Lola Crites	Carlton
Vernon Goetz	Cascade Locks
Edith M. Clarke	Cave Junction
John Chaney	Central Point/Jacksonville
Lloyd Peters	Chiloquin
Robert Dale Franklin	Clatskanie
Velma M. VanDolah	Columbia City
Harry J. Lutz, Jr.	Condon
Jerry O. Lesan	Coos Bay
A. C. Walsh, Jr.	Coquille
J. Davis Walker	Cornelius
Don Todorovich	Corvallis
Francis W. Linklater	Cottage Grove
Vern Benson	Culver
Mark Bliven	Dallas
Martha Krake	Dayton
Verne R. Thomas	Drain
Gwenith Filbin	Dufur
Robert Percy	Durham
Steven L. Swartsley	Eagle Point
Malcolm J. Corrigan	Eastside
Joe L. Martin	Echo/Stamfield
M. Gene Dayton	Elgin

# MUNICIPAL COURTS

## MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

Name	City
Eugene E. Johnson	Enterprise
Terrance L. McCauley	Estacada
Frank E. Bocci	Eugene
Pierre L. Van Rysselberghe	Eugene
Betsy Nicholson	Fairview
K. Scott McArthur	Falls City
Steven R. Bennett	Florence
J. William Young	Forest Grove
Margaret Dukek	Fossil
Harold H. White	Garibaldi
Pamela G. Daves	Gaston
Elizabeth Truex	Gearhart
Edward Studer	Gervais
Philip H. Ringle, Jr.*	Gladstone
Viola J. Chandler	Glendale
Mildred L. Bynon	Gold Beach
Ralph A. James	Gold Hill/Rogue River
Wally Martin	Grants Pass
Stan Adams	Gresham
Robert T. Scott	Halsey
Ron Miller	Haramond
Robert Mills	Happy Valley
Aleta J. Simmons	Harrisburg
C. C. Rittenhouse	Helix
Marshall Lovgren	Hepner
Marvin L. Dick	Hermiston
Robert H. McSweeny	Hillsboro
Lawrence Beech	Hines
Gary E. Lockwood	Hood River
Roger Warren	Hubbard
Edith L. Palmer	Huntington
Reba D. Snyder	Idanha
Jack McElvary	Independence
Vesti Elgin	Irrigon
John H. Chaney	Jacksonville
Mary Sarvis	Jefferson
Frank Johnson	John Day
Edna Kiel	Joseph
David Palmer	King City
Jonathan T. Harnish	Klamath Falls
Jules Drabkin	Lafayette
Gary J. Susak	La Grande

# MUNICIPAL COURTS

## MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

Name	City
Frederick T. Smith	Lake Oswego
Thomas S. Elliott	Lakeview
Lester L. B. Steers	Lebanon/Waterloo
Carl B. Kole	Lincoln City
James H. Phelps	Madras
J. Paul McCulley	Malin
Vera E. Burgett	Maupin
Elizabeth Jackson	Maywood Park
William G. Carter	Medford
Jimmie Rieger	Merrill
Kenneth Sohn	Metolius
Donald E. Sheythe	Mill City
William L. Gaibreath	Milton-Freewater
Robert J. Morgan	Milwaukie
C. H. Haynes	Molalla
Peyton T. Lieuallen	Monmouth
Sharon K. Tessier	Mosier
Eugene J. Sperle	Mt. Angel
Delores DeSouza	Mt. Vernon
Chester Eaton	Myrtle Creek
Al Walsh, Jr.	Myrtle Point
John H. Fuller	Newberg/McMinnville
Alex M. Hamilton, Jr.	Newport
William A. Hedges	North Bend
Vernon L. Richards	North Plains
Fred Robinson	Nyssa
Madalene A. Loney	Oakland
Jeffrey Lake	Oakridge
Hugh Baker	Ontario
Harold Uney	Oregon City
Arthur R. Barrows	Pendleton/Pilot Rock
Robert M. Gordon	Philomath
James A. Wickre	Phoenix
Georgia F. Dougherty	Port Orford
Lillian Ross	Powers
Zelma Woods	Prairie City
Blanche Nelson	Prescott
L. J. Owens	Prineville
John X. Wittwer	Rainier
George F. Rakestraw	Redmond
Forrester G. Taylor	Reedsport
John H. Sass	Richland

# MUNICIPAL COURTS

## MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

Name	City
Chester A. Eaton	Riddle
Rosemary Walker	Rockaway
Warren A. Woodruff	Roseburg
H. Douglas Mahurin	Rufus
Clyde McCornick	St. Helens
R. A. James	Shady Cove
Wayne M. Thompson	Salem
Garret L. Romaine	Sandy
Donald E. Jimerson	Scappose
Joanne Bilyeu	Scio
Steve Campbell	Seaside
Howard A. Stiltz	Seneca
John H. Fuller	Sheridan
Anthony Pelay	Sherwood/Tigard
Christel Klinkhart	Siletz
Roger W. Gracey	Silverton
Richard Trafton	Sisters
Richard Curtis	Springfield
Joe L. Martin	Stanfield
William C. Crothers, Jr.	Stayton
Darryl E. Johnson	Sutherlin/Winston
C. U. Buck	Sweet Home
Clifford W. Brower	Talent
Ronald M. Somers	The Dalles
Gus A. Elbow, Jr.	Tillamook
Bruce C. Parsons	Toledo
Thomas E. Sweeney	Troutdale
Yvonne L. Addington	Tualatin
Joe L. Martin	Umatilla
Larry D. Cole	Union/North Powder
Howard Ego	Vale
Harold Gregory	Veneta/Monroe/Junction City/Cresswell/Coburg
Phyllis S. Woods	Vernonia
Viola Blackman	Waldport
Gilbert G. Gramson	Warrenton
Robert Lohman	West Linn
Alice Ringer	Weston
Rollin Wood	Willamina/Yamhill
Burdan Vernon	Wilsonville
Kay Powers	Wood Villiage
Frank A. Moscate, Jr.	Woodburn
JoAnn Long	Yachats
Mary A. Noffsinger	Yoncalla

City <sup>1</sup>	Albany	Ashland	Astoria	Athena	Aurora	Baker	Bandon	Beaverton	Brookings	Cannon Beach
<b>CASES FILED - 1975</b>	2953	3365	1682	66	46	1293	165	3912	512	348
Major Traffic Offenses	304	2	363	0	6	133	12	390	74	68
Minor Traffic Offenses	2035	2887	946	25	37	874	92	3352	355	193
Other Cases	614	476	373	41	3	286	61	170	83	87
<b>CASES TERMINATED - 1975</b>	2887	3244	1779	63	43	1283	174	3576	495	344
Cases Tried	232	159	188	52	4	19	121	401	13	120
Major Traffic Offenses	34	0	54	0	1	7	10	165	1	23
Minor Traffic Offenses	133	127	78	22	3	9	65	209	10	72
Other Cases	65	32	56	30	0	3	46	27	2	25
Other Terminations	2655	3085	1591	11	39	1264	53	3175	482	224
Major Traffic Offenses	260	2	372	0	5	123	5	190	68	39
Minor Traffic Offenses	1860	2670	907	0	32	877	34	2866	326	128
Other Cases	535	413	312	11	2	264	14	119	88	57
<b>CASES PENDING - DEC. 31</b>	438	498	331	6	3	56	16	939	47	34
Major Traffic Offenses	101	0	171	0	0	19	3	246	7	16
Minor Traffic Offenses	271	359	80	3	2	21	8	603	33	5
Other Cases	66	139	80	3	1	16	5	90	7	13

<sup>1</sup> Cities not shown failed to report for each month of the year.

City <sup>1</sup>	Cave Junction	Chiloquin	Clatskanie	Coquille	Cornelius	Cottage Grove	Eastside	Enterprise	Florence	Forest Grove
<b>CASES FILED</b>	136	62	636	674	685	2068	246	186	612	1579
Major Traffic Offenses	3	0	100	70	63	272	29	31	112	73
Minor Traffic Offenses	133	48	474	512	616	1522	193	126	430	1506
Other Cases	0	14	62	92	6	274	24	29	70	0
<b>CASES TERMINATED</b>	141	56	644	648	641	1871	257	186	641	1520
Cases Tried	66	22	416	43	297	320	6	1	67	1520
Major Traffic Offenses	2	0	102	4	4	91	4	1	16	66
Minor Traffic Offenses	64	20	263	16	289	116	2	0	26	1454
Other Cases	0	2	51	23	4	113	0	0	25	0
Other Terminations	75	34	228	605	344	1551	251	185	574	0
Major Traffic Offenses	1	5	2	43	39	129	25	30	108	0
Minor Traffic Offenses	74	21	216	492	302	1302	199	126	405	0
Other Cases	0	8	10	70	3	120	27	29	61	0
<b>CASES PENDING</b>	14	56	76	62	143	421	15	4	65	355
Major Traffic Offenses	0	1	15	29	44	104	3	2	16	87
Minor Traffic Offenses	14	30	56	20	99	248	11	1	40	268
Other Cases	0	25	5	13	0	69	1	1	9	0

<sup>1</sup> Cities not shown failed to report for each month of the year.

City <sup>1</sup>	Garibaldi	Gladstone	Gold Beach	Gresham	Harrisburg	Heppner	Hillsboro	Hood River	Hubbard	Jefferson
<b>CASES FILED - 1975</b>	159	1649	201	1588	343	153	3636	555	253	707
Major Traffic Offenses	16	150	20	155	64	0	231	96	20	62
Minor Traffic Offenses	137	1445	167	1060	216	149	3036	374	214	599
Other Cases	6	54	14	373	63	4	369	85	19	46
<b>CASES TERMINATED - 1975</b>	149	1665	193	1582	334	164	3564	539	234	694
Cases Tried	53	179	11	104	10	0	199	31	32	96
Major Traffic Offenses	0	74	0	27	5	0	27	6	6	17
Minor Traffic Offenses	52	91	8	55	0	0	160	19	21	65
Other Cases	1	14	3	22	5	0	12	6	5	14
Other Terminations	96	1486	182	1478	324	164	3365	508	202	598
Major Traffic Offenses	13	70	14	128	50	0	237	87	13	46
Minor Traffic Offenses	80	1372	159	1032	216	157	2784	343	179	521
Other Cases	3	44	9	318	58	7	344	78	10	31
<b>CASES PENDING - DEC. 31</b>	13	46	19	463	21	2	521	73	52	58
Major Traffic Offenses	3	28	7	71	9	0	162	7	11	2
Minor Traffic Offenses	8	15	10	275	10	2	346	57	35	49
Other Cases	2	3	2	117	2	0	13	9	6	7

<sup>1</sup> Cities not shown failed to report for each month of the year.

City <sup>1</sup>	La Grande	Lebanon	Lincoln City	McMinnville	Madras	Medford	Mill City	Milton-Freewater	Milwaukie	Myrtle Creek
<b>CASES FILED</b>	1413	1579	1314	2335	445	8709	271	436	3673	729
Major Traffic Offenses	206	125	136	294	41	315	33	47	348	92
Minor Traffic Offenses	1032	1104	1074	1926	372	7762	222	258	3189	403
Other Cases	175	350	104	115	32	632	16	131	136	234
<b>CASES TERMINATED</b>	1423	1467	1228	2145	450	8276	273	445	3792	697
Cases Tried	150	143	491	199	13	571	20	36	255	144
Major Traffic Offenses	45	20	103	79	11	59	9	6	55	18
Minor Traffic Offenses	83	43	334	105	2	429	11	21	176	82
Other Cases	22	80	54	15	0	83	0	9	24	44
Other Terminations	1273	1324	737	1946	437	7705	253	409	3537	553
Major Traffic Offenses	154	95	37	136	32	240	23	45	307	65
Minor Traffic Offenses	953	1025	674	1742	371	6997	214	229	3103	330
Other Cases	166	204	26	68	34	468	16	135	127	158
<b>CASES PENDING</b>	149	380	159	347	1	2805	20	34	894	136
Major Traffic Offenses	90	30	18	130	1	168	5	12	166	19
Minor Traffic Offenses	37	246	102	185	0	2368	13	18	685	66
Other Cases	22	104	39	32	0	269	2	4	43	51

<sup>1</sup> Cities not shown failed to report for each month of the year.

City 1	Myrtle Point	Newberg	Newport	North Bend	Nyssa	Oakridge	Oregon City	Pilot Rock	Prineville	Rainier
<b>CASES FILED</b>	412	1256	484	1543	458	683	2521	128	1332	496
Major Traffic Offenses	42	189	55	170	86	69	201	22	214	76
Minor Traffic Offenses	274	866	382	1155	251	528	1477	75	816	360
Other Cases	96	201	47	218	121	86	843	31	302	60
<b>CASES TERMINATED</b>	410	1105	478	1607	438	640	2415	128	1329	503
Cases Tried	25	108	114	121	325	42	88	90	1329	503
Major Traffic Offenses	6	36	44	17	78	7	11	20	207	71
Minor Traffic Offenses	10	49	50	57	149	29	55	48	819	377
Other Cases	9	23	20	47	98	6	22	22	303	55
Other Terminations	385	997	364	1486	113	598	2327	38	0	0
Major Traffic Offenses	40	80	24	179	10	51	186	4	0	0
Minor Traffic Offenses	261	769	308	1136	85	480	1330	25	0	0
Other Cases	84	148	32	171	18	67	811	9	0	0
<b>CASES PENDING</b>	45	277	72	260	26	137	238	12	92	53
Major Traffic Offenses	9	105	15	29	0	26	21	5	39	21
Minor Traffic Offenses	20	115	53	177	19	95	186	7	32	20
Other Cases	16	57	4	54	7	16	31	0	21	12

<sup>1</sup> Cities not shown failed to report for each month of the year.

City 1	Redmond	Reedsport	Roseburg	St. Helens	Salem	Sandy	Scappoose	Shady Cove	Sheridan	Springfield
<b>CASES FILED</b>	674	851	3229	1122	14873	597	649	129	239	7487
Major Traffic Offenses	95	72	280	107	1021	16	100	7	63	958
Minor Traffic Offenses	447	595	2484	808	13428	496	473	115	173	5727
Other Cases	132	184	465	207	424	85	76	7	3	802
<b>CASES TERMINATED</b>	638	848	3198	1061	14840	591	623	128	238	7483
Cases Tried	169	44	409	742	794	139	62	0	184	331
Major Traffic Offenses	22	8	92	76	155	7	13	0	60	89
Minor Traffic Offenses	104	36	227	471	585	105	41	0	124	199
Other Cases	43	0	90	195	55	27	8	0	0	43
Other Terminations	469	804	2789	319	14046	452	561	128	54	7152
Major Traffic Offenses	62	65	183	1	784	9	74	10	2	860
Minor Traffic Offenses	355	542	2241	312	12886	386	427	115	49	5355
Other Cases	52	197	365	6	376	57	60	3	3	937
<b>CASES PENDING</b>	91	62	717	161	3029	0	74	8	5	1744
Major Traffic Offenses	13	20	43	53	379	0	18	0	2	433
Minor Traffic Offenses	30	36	514	69	2576	0	37	4	3	1230
Other Cases	48	6	160	39	74	0	19	4	0	81

<sup>1</sup> Cities not shown failed to report for each month of the year.

City <sup>1</sup>	Sweet Home	The Dalles	Tigard	Tillamook	Toledo	Troutdale	Tualatin	Turner	Umatilla	Union
<b>CASES FILED</b>	646	1824	1093	1015	158	843	870	317	867	231
Major Traffic Offenses	120	282	1	139	25	42	25	40	121	15
Minor Traffic Offenses	339	1240	1036	875	74	714	833	236	657	159
Other Cases	187	302	56	1	59	87	12	41	89	57
<b>CASES TERMINATED</b>	570	1801	1117	1023	139	754	943	332	815	235
Cases Tried	24	154	477	154	8	451	25	207	20	29
Major Traffic Offenses	12	28	2	28	5	17	3	42	5	4
Minor Traffic Offenses	6	72	425	126	1	381	20	137	11	19
Other Cases	6	54	50	0	2	53	2	28	4	6
Other Terminations	546	1647	640	869	131	303	918	125	795	206
Major Traffic Offenses	90	254	0	98	17	0	19	1	105	11
Minor Traffic Offenses	336	1144	639	768	69	267	886	116	603	143
Other Cases	120	249	1	3	45	36	13	8	87	52
<b>CASES PENDING</b>	144	338	572	57	35	118	15	21	88	3
Major Traffic Offenses	27	85	16	17	12	25	9	4	18	1
Minor Traffic Offenses	18	224	542	40	7	83	6	12	69	2
Other Cases	99	29	14	0	16	10	0	5	1	0

<sup>1</sup> Cities not shown failed to report for each month of the year.

City <sup>1</sup>	Warrenton	West Linn	Willamina	Winston	Woodburn					TOTAL
<b>CASES FILED</b>	208	858	226	854	1922					102,469
Major Traffic Offenses	28	27	27	83	279					9,653
Minor Traffic Offenses	170	827	132	524	1417					81,258
Other Cases	10	4	67	247	226					11,558
<b>CASES TERMINATED</b>	253	775	235	890	1652					100,042
Cases Tried	11	102	48	107	264					14,504
Major Traffic Offenses	3	21	6	16	80					2,443
Minor Traffic Offenses	6	79	17	53	125					9,747
Other Cases	2	2	25	38	59					2,314
Other Terminations	242	673	187	783	1388					85,538
Major Traffic Offenses	34	30	24	70	119					6,734
Minor Traffic Offenses	194	639	113	519	1097					69,913
Other Cases	14	4	50	194	172					8,891
<b>CASES PENDING</b>	22	135	17	149	732					19,321
Major Traffic Offenses	15	18	6	25	205					3,517
Minor Traffic Offenses	7	113	7	81	433					13,566
Other Cases	0	4	4	43	94					2,238

<sup>1</sup> Cities not shown failed to report for each month of the year.

# JUSTICE COURTS

## JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Name	City	County
Earl English	Baker	Baker
John H. Sass	Richland	Baker
George L. Howeler	Sandy	Clackamas
Gladys B. Olsen	Molalla	Clackamas
Orville E. Gilkey	Clatskanie	Columbia
Phylis Busch	Vernonia	Columbia
Vernon R. Boyer	Prineville	Crook
Merwyn Palmer	Brookings	Curry
Georgia F. Dougherty	Port Orford	Curry
Donald L. Ellis	Redmond	Deschutes
Gloria McGinnis	Canyonville	Douglas
Warren T. DeLaVergne	Drain	Douglas
Duard N. Story	Reedsport	Douglas
A.V. Mohr	Glendale	Douglas
William Marshall	Arlington	Gilliam
Marvin A. Albee	Condon	Gilliam
Jean V. Zeiler	Canyon City	Grant
Bertha A. Brainard	Prairie City	Grant
Thomas M. Wentz	Burns	Harney
Russell H. Nichols	Cascade Locks	Hood River
Ralph A. James	Gold Hill	Jackson
A. Wayne Nelson	Madras	Jefferson
Ken Adams	Chiloquin	Klamath
Richard S. Moffet	Lakeview	Lake
Ernest F. Shuffield	Summer Lake	Lake
Ruth Brass Ashton	Florence	Lane
Jack H. Wilkinson	Oakridge	Lane
Herbert R. DeSelms	Lincoln City	Lincoln
F.A. Cornell	Sweet Home	Linn
Lyle F.H. Vehrs	Lebanon	Linn
Jason E. Streight	Harrisburg	Linn

# JUSTICE COURTS

## JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Name	City	County
Nita Bellows	Ontario	Malheur
E. Otis Smith	Nyssa	Malheur
Mary F. Graham	Vale	Malheur
Malcolm Palmer	Jordan Valley	Malheur
Walter H. Bell	Stayton	Marion
Irving D. Brown	Woodburn	Marion
Charles O'Connor	Ione	Morrow
Ernest E. Jorgensen	Irrigon	Morrow
Darlene Thenell	Moro	Sherman
Marjorie Christensen	Tillamook	Tillamook
John W. Smallmon	Hermiston	Umatilla
Clifford C. Collinsworth	Enterprise	Wallowa
Iris Faye Couch	Wallowa	Wallowa
Beatrice D. Payne	Tigard	Washington
Doris Jean Prindle	Fossil	Wheeler
E. Jane Woodward	Mitchell	Wheeler

**CONTINUED**

**1 OF 2**

Court <sup>1</sup>	Clackamas, Sandy	Columbia, Vernonia	Curry, Brookings	Deschutes, Redmond	Douglas, Drain	Douglas, Reedsport	Gilliam, Arlington	Harney, Burns	Klamath Chiloquin	Lake, Lakeview
<b>CASES FILED - 1975</b>	5412	101	2415	3094	3047	5815	2843	3189	6713	2521
Civil	7	4	3	15	4	22	0	23	14	35
Small Claims	18	42	131	14	22	59	1	431	16	75
Offenses	1249	7	167	81	161	470	51	254	86	131
Traffic	4138	48	2114	2984	2860	5264	2791	2481	6597	2280
<b>CASES TERMINATED - 1975</b>	4855	92	2466	3038	3240	6194	2726	2634	6151	2171
Civil	13	2	3	17	3	18	0	20	13	24
Small Claims	23	37	111	15	20	78	1	241	23	39
Offenses	1274	8	177	77	144	482	34	242	77	90
Traffic	3545	45	2175	2929	3073	5616	2691	2131	6038	2018
<b>CASES PENDING - Dec. 31</b>	1260	22	119	277	375	779	258	748	1009	688
Civil	0	0	0	0	1	40	0	9	12	39
Small Claims	0	19	23	1	3	98	0	238	5	72
Offenses	156	0	8	12	50	64	8	28	16	56
Traffic	1104	3	88	264	321	577	250	473	976	521

<sup>1</sup> Courts not shown failed to report for each month of the year.

Court 1	Lake, Summer Lake	Lane, Oakridge	Linn, Harrisburg	Linn, Lebanon	Linn, Sweet Home	Marion, Stayton	Marion, Woodburn	Morrow, Irrigon	Tillamook, Tillamook	Washington Tigard	TOTAL
<b>CASES FILED</b>	297	2302	2767	3017	2370	1137	1780	3531	6932	12837	72120
Civil	89	29	0	25	6	0	21	3	113	1	414
Small Claims	3	69	10	114	8	0	80	43	319	3	1458
Offenses	5	71	127	504	134	104	0	124	1477	5	5208
Traffic	200	2133	2630	2374	2222	1033	1679	3361	5023	12828	65040
<b>CASES TERMINATED - 1975</b>	294	2320	2812	3035	2348	1124	1736	3441	6720	12483	69880
Civil	86	32	0	30	4	0	24	4	108	0	401
Small Claims	3	72	13	113	11	0	69	23	309	3	1204
Offenses	5	81	115	477	123	98	0	106	1530	10	5150
Traffic	200	2135	2684	2415	2210	1026	1643	3308	4773	12470	63125
<b>CASES PENDING - Dec. 31</b>	45	175	284	267	417	91	111	306	912	1260	9403
Civil	13	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	11	0	130
Small Claims	0	0	0	17	0	0	18	27	15	0	536
Offenses	0	5	21	62	46	13	0	24	197	156	922
Traffic	32	170	263	188	368	78	91	255	689	1104	7815

<sup>1</sup>Courts not shown failed to report for each month of the year.



STATE OF OREGON

# SUPREME COURT

LOREN D. HICKS  
State Court Administrator

January 21, 1976

Honorable Robert W. Straub  
Governor of Oregon  
State Capitol Building  
Salem, OR 97310

Dear Governor Straub:

The Judicial Conference of Oregon submits this annual report for 1975 pursuant to ORS 1.840. The Conference Executive Committee has decided, as a cost saving measure, to publish this year's annual report in condensed letter form and to publish more detailed reports in printed form only every second year.

The year 1975 was an extremely busy year for the courts of Oregon. The rising caseload of several recent years continued in the courts at all levels, resulting in concerns that were communicated to the Legislature by the Judicial Conference. As a result, the 58th Legislative Assembly created 12 new District Court and Circuit Court judgeships, effective at different and staggered dates commencing with September 1, 1975. However, only eight of the judges assumed office in 1975 and their tenure to date was not long enough to offset the continued heavy annual average caseload per judge in 1975.

As a result of the legislative action and the Governor's appointment of additional judges to fill vacancies, the following new judges were welcomed to Judicial Conference membership during the year:

Circuit Court Judges -- Warner V. Wasley, Union and Wallowa Counties; William A. Beckett, Lane County; Walter Edmonds Jr., Deschutes, Jefferson, Gilliam; Grant, Crook, and Wheeler Counties; Thomas Enright, Marion County; and Theodore Abram, Klamath County.

District Court Judges -- Karl W. Freerksen, Washington County; Robert E. Jones, Coos County; Gary A. Knutson, Klamath County; Bryan T. Hodges, Lane County; Clarke C. Brown, Marion County; Donald Ashmanskas, Washington County; James A. Monce, Union-Wallowa Counties; Donald Londer, Multnomah County; James Hargreaves, Lane County; and David L. Smedema, Benton County.

The Judicial Conference during 1975 continued to carry out its function as the statutory agency for survey and study of the Oregon judicial system. Composed of all the judges of the state courts, the

Conference had working committees attending to the problems and needs of the court system. General oversight came from the Executive Committee and the Conference chairman, Chief Justice Kenneth J. O'Connell.

The Judicial Administration Committee continued its work of researching and planning for the needs of the court system in judicial reform legislation, judges' retirement and compensation, liaison with Oregon State Bar and many other matters of application to the entire court system.

The Bench Book Committee has actively involved a number of judges in writing a new Bench Book that will provide a convenient reference guide to all judges on the new Oregon Criminal Procedure Code.

Of exceptional interest to all judges and the public at large is the principal current project of the Special Courts Committee which laid the groundwork in 1975 for broad-based judicial and public education about Oregon's new Motor Vehicle Code that will become effective July 1, 1976. While this committee is concentrating its effort on education and materials for the judges, a state interagency committee with judiciary support is concentrating on education for the public and for law enforcement representatives.

The Special Courts Committee also has started the important work of preparing for the change in District Court procedure that will require recording of District Court trials when those courts become courts of record on January 1, 1977.

Significant progress in the new State Judicial Information System was also made in 1975 under the leadership of a committee of judges and representative administrators of non-judicial agencies. Under this federally funded project for computerizing court records, the installation of terminals for conversion of manual recordkeeping to computerized system was completed by year's end for the Oregon Supreme Court and Oregon Court of Appeals. Preparation for the extension of this system in Marion County courts was made. Other counties will be added to the system later in 1976.

There are other physical changes, such as additional courtrooms in several of the state's courts, and the year saw the completion of new judges' chambers and staff space in the State Office Building for the Oregon Court of Appeals.

The education committee, renamed this year as the Oregon Judicial College, arranged an orientation week for all newly appointed judges, stimulated advanced postgraduate education for all judges and provided leadership for two large conferences. An educational workshop for justices of the peace and municipal court judges was staged at Monmouth in March. A Court Staff Educational Conference, an innovation this year, was conducted at Portland in December. It was a three-day inservice training event for 140 clerks, bailiffs, court administrators, secretaries and other court support staff from virtually all Oregon counties.

A new Code of Judicial Conduct that was adopted in March by the Oregon Supreme Court was monitored by the Judicial Conduct Committee which provided advisory services in matters covered by the code.

The Public Information Committee put into operation the new position of state courts information director as authorized by the 1975 Legislature. The committee worked toward an improvement of public confidence in the courts through public education, liaison with professional and community organizations, citizens' involvement, news media relations and publications.

The Legislative Committee kept the Oregon Legislature informed of the ongoing needs of an efficient state court system and, in addition, studied and recommended substantial judicial reform in such areas as merit selection of judges, a more equitable retirement system, investing the courts with the procedural rulemaking powers in civil procedure, and a statewide public defender system.

Court reporting practices, uniform jury instructions, court facility improvement and recording equipment for District Courts were among study and policy making issues engaging other committees.

The Judicial Conference, convening as a whole and in committees, combined professional education with annual business and a probate workshop during its annual meeting April 16-19 in Eugene.

Respectfully submitted,

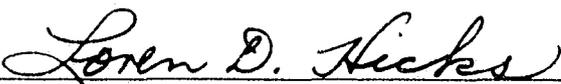
Executive Committee  
OREGON JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

Chief Justice Kenneth J. O'Connell, Chairman

Associate Justice Dean Bryson  
Judge Virgil Langtry  
Judge J. S. Bohannon  
Judge Edward Leavy  
Judge Wendell H. Tompkins  
Judge Robert W. Redding  
Judge Harold A. Lewis

Liaison Representatives:

Judge Val D. Sloper, Circuit Judges Assn.  
Judge Robert M. Mulvey, District Judges Assn.  
Judge Darrell Williams, Juvenile Court Judges Assn.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Loren D. Hicks  
Executive Secretary

THE JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE STATE OF OREGON

This Conference, established by ORS 1.810, consists of all Oregon judges of the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, the Tax Court, the circuit and district courts. Its function, as defined in ORS 1.820 is:

"The conference may make a continuous survey and study of the organization, jurisdiction, procedure, practice and methods of administration and operation of the various courts within the state...."

The Conference's annual report requirement is stated in ORS 1.840 as follows:

"The conference shall report annually to the Governor with respect to such matters, including recommendations for legislation, as it may wish to bring to the attention of the Governor or of the legislature."

The committees of the Conference and their chairmen are as follows for 1975-76:

Executive Committee	Chief Justice Kenneth J. O'Connell
Bench Book	John A. Jelderks, Circuit Court Judge
Court Facilities	William S. Fort, Court of Appeals Judge
Court Reporting	Jeff D. Dorroh, Circuit Court Judge
Criminal Law & Procedure	Donald R. Blensly, District Court Judge
Judicial Administration	Jena V. Schlegel, Circuit Court Judge
Judicial Conduct	F. Gordon Cottrell, Circuit Court Judge
Judicial College	Richard L. Unis, District Court Judge
Legislative	Thomas H. Tongue, Supreme Court Justice
Probate Law & Procedure	Kurt C. Rossman, Circuit Court Judge
Procedure & Practice	John C. Beatty, Jr., Circuit Court Judge
Public Information	Robert W. Redding, District Court Judge
Special Courts	Philip T. Abraham, District Court Judge
Statistics & Data Processing	Roland V. Rodman, Circuit Court Judge
Uniform Jury Instructions	Charles S. Crookham, Circuit Court Judge

**END**

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