



SUPREME COURT OF MISSISSIPPI **2002 ANNUAL REPORT**

The 2002 Annual Report of the Supreme Court of Mississippi provides a synopsis of the appellate court system consisting of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals and the trial court system including chancery, circuit, county, and youth courts.

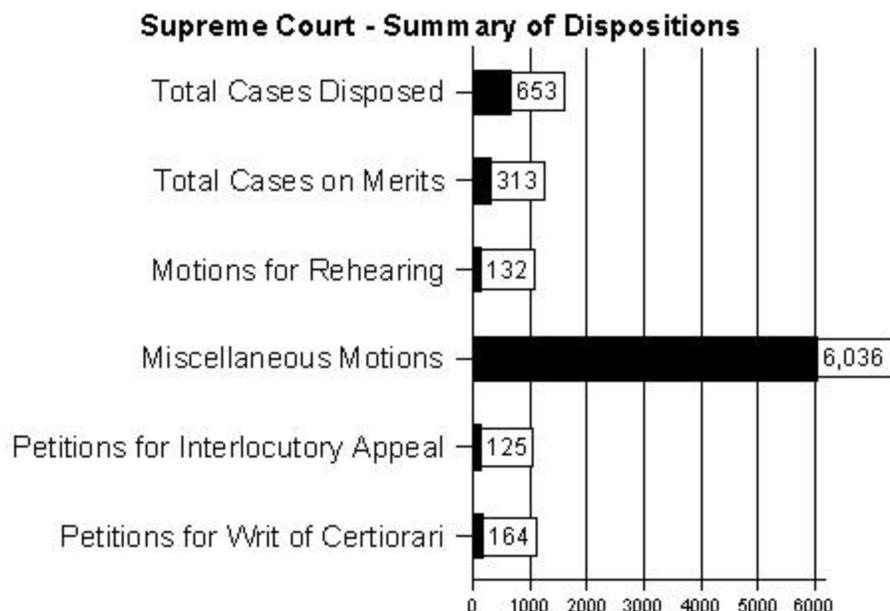
APPELLATE COURTS

There were 1099 new filings in 2002. The Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals disposed of 1284 cases in 2002. Of this number, 923 involved decisions on the merits. The remaining 361 were dismissed. In civil dispositions on the merits, the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals affirmed 449 (or 74%) and reversed 161 (or 26%) for a total of 610 civil dispositions on the merits. In criminal dispositions on the merits, the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals affirmed 253 (or 81%) and reversed 60 (or 19%) for a total of 313 criminal dispositions on the merits. There were 1543 cases on the merits pending before the Appellate Courts as of December 31, 2002.

SUPREME COURT

The 2002 Supreme Court disposed 653 cases. Of this number, 313 involved decisions on the merits. The remaining 340 were dismissed. Of the cases disposed on the merits, 184 (or 59%) were civil and 129 (or 41%) were criminal. Overall, the Court affirmed 206 (or 66%) of the cases disposed in 2002, while reversing 107 (or 34%). In civil dispositions, the Court affirmed 121 (or 66%) and reversed 63 (or 34%) for a total of 184 cases. In criminal dispositions, the Court affirmed 85 (or 66%) and reversed 44 (or 34%) for a total of 129 criminal dispositions.

The Supreme Court disposed 132 motions for rehearing in 2002; 116 were denied, 14 were granted and 2 were dismissed. The number of other motions disposed in 2002 by the Court was 6039. Pursuant to M.R.A.P. 5, this Court disposed 125 petitions for interlocutory appeal in 2002; 36 were granted, 81 were denied, and 8 had other dispositions. The Court disposed 164 Petitions for Writ of Certiorari: 136 were denied, 26 were granted, and 2 were dismissed. The following chart represents a summary of the cases, motions, and petitions disposed by the Supreme Court in 2002.

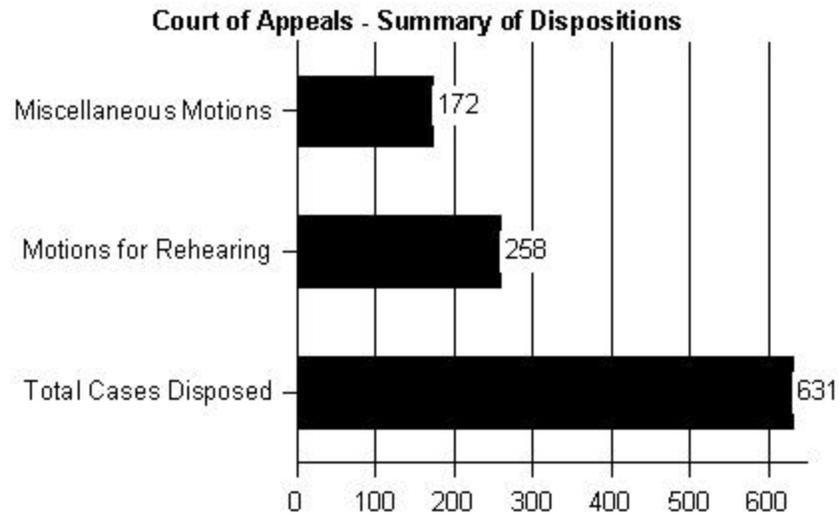


The Supreme Court heard oral argument in 41 cases in 2002. The majority of cases disposed by the Supreme Court originated in circuit court.

COURT OF APPEALS

In 2002, the Court of Appeals disposed of 631 cases. Of this number, 610 involved decisions on the merits. The remaining 21 were dismissed. Of the cases disposed on the merits, 426 (or 70%) were civil and 184 (or 30%) were criminal. Overall, the Court of Appeals affirmed 496 (or 81%) of the cases disposed in 2002, while reversing 114 (or 19%). In civil dispositions, the Court of Appeals affirmed 328 (or 77%) and reversed 98 (or 23%) for a total of 426 civil dispositions. In criminal dispositions, the Court of Appeals affirmed 168 (or 91%) and reversed 16 (or 9%) for a total of 184 criminal dispositions. Twenty three (23) cases originated in the Workers' Compensation Commission.

The Court of Appeals disposed 258 motions for rehearing in 2002: 251 were denied, 6 were granted and 1 was dismissed. The number of other motions disposed in 2002 was 172.



The Court of Appeals heard oral argument in 50 cases in 2002. The majority of cases disposed of by the Court of Appeals originated in circuit court.

TRIAL COURT SYSTEM

Due to problems identified with the import of data from the trial courts, the trial court system data will be provided at a later date.