



SUPREME COURT OF MISSISSIPPI 2004 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2004 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 for the calendar year 2004.

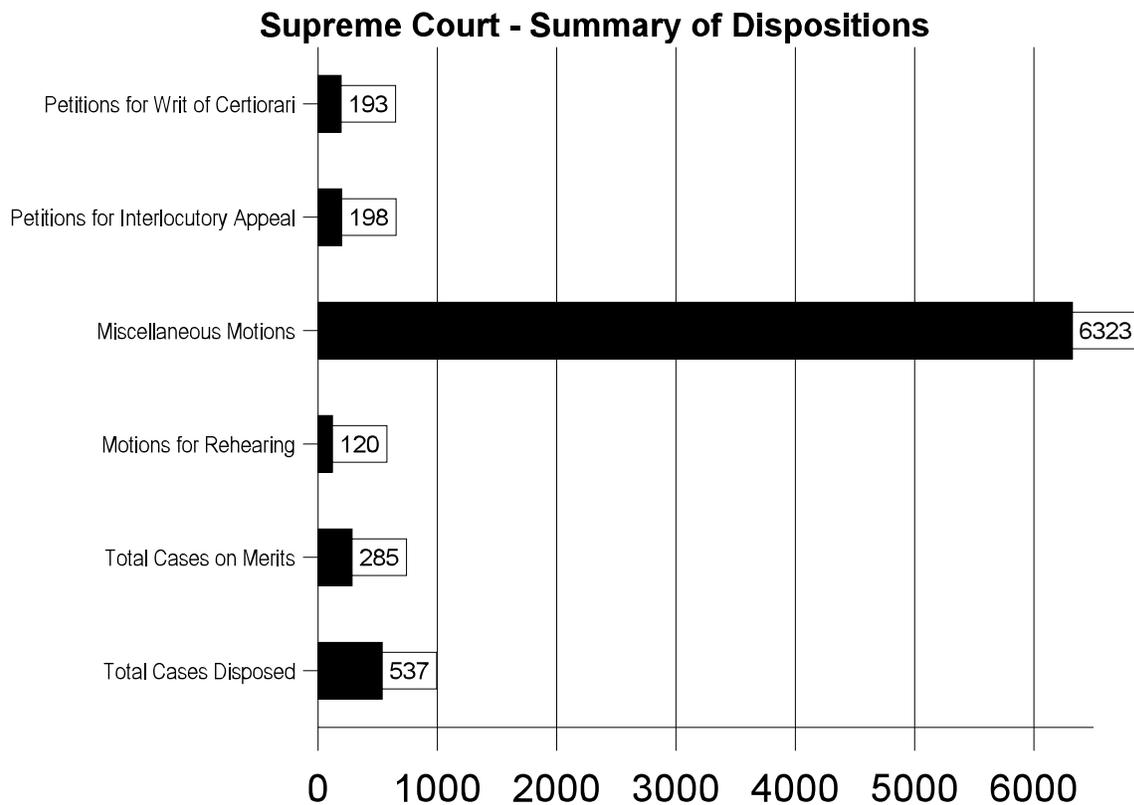
APPELLATE COURTS

There were 1178 new filings in 2004. The Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals disposed of 1166 cases in 2004. Of this number, 898 involved decisions on the merits. The remaining 268 were dismissed. The Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals affirmed 464 (71%) and reversed 193 (29%) of the total of 657 civil case dispositions on the merits. Of the 241 criminal cases disposed on the merits, the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals affirmed 209 (87%) and reversed 32 (13%). There were 1735 cases on the merits pending before the Appellate Courts as of December 31, 2004.

SUPREME COURT

In 2004, Supreme Court disposed of 537 cases. Of this number, 285 were decisions on the merits. The remaining 252 were dismissed. Of the cases disposed on the merits, 253 (89%) were civil and 32 (11%) were criminal. Overall, the Court affirmed 176 (62%) of the cases decided on the merits in 2004, while reversing 109 (38%). Of the 253 civil case dispositions, the Court affirmed 145 (57%) and reversed 108 (43%). Of the total 32 criminal case dispositions, the Court affirmed 31 (97%) and reversed 1 (3%).

The Supreme Court disposed of 120 motions for rehearing in 2004; 104 (87%) were denied, 12 (10%) were granted, and 4 (3%) were dismissed. The number of other motions disposed of in 2004 by the Court was 6323. Pursuant to M.R.A.P. 5, this Court disposed of 198 petitions for interlocutory appeal in 2004; 75 (38%) were granted, 94 (47%) were denied, and 29 (15%) had other dispositions. The Court disposed of 193 petitions for writ of certiorari: 156 (81%) were denied, 34 (18%) were granted, and 3 (1%) were dismissed. The following chart represents a summary of the cases, motions, and petitions disposed of by the Supreme Court in 2004.



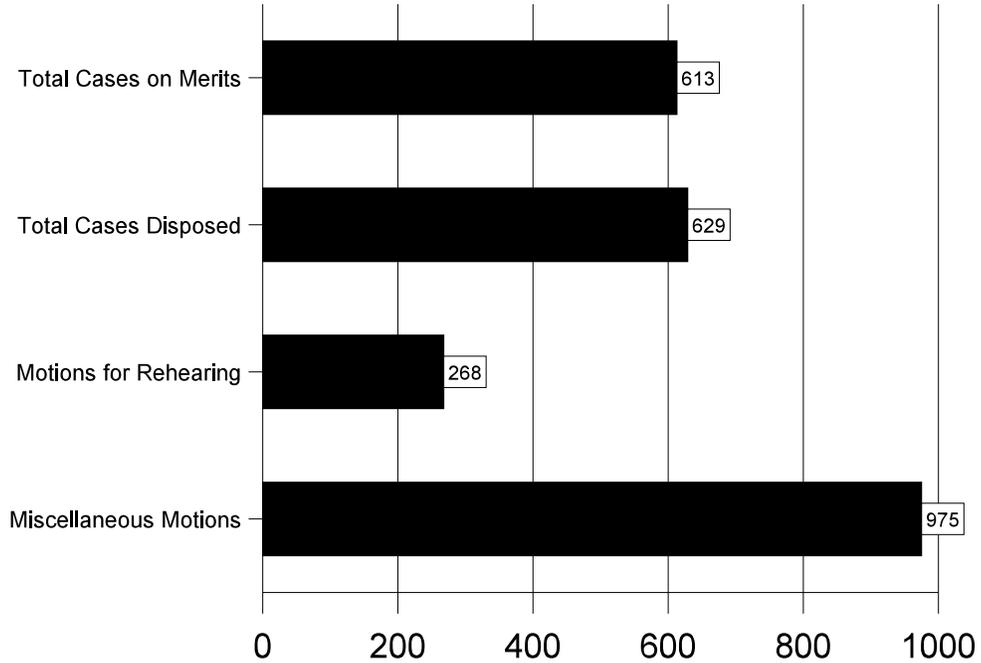
The Supreme Court heard oral argument in 22 cases in 2004. The majority of cases disposed of by the Supreme Court originated in circuit court.

COURT OF APPEALS

In 2004, the Court of Appeals disposed of 629 cases. Of this number, 613 involved decisions on the merits. The remaining 16 were dismissed. Of the cases disposed of on the merits, 404 (66%) were civil and 209 (34%) were criminal. Overall, the Court of Appeals affirmed 497 (81%) of the cases disposed in 2004, while reversing 116 (19%). Of the total 404 civil case dispositions, the Court of Appeals affirmed 319 (79%) and reversed 85 (21%). Of the total 209 criminal case dispositions, the Court of Appeals affirmed 178 (85%) and reversed 31 (15%).

The Court of Appeals disposed of 268 motions for rehearing in 2004: 254 (95%) were denied, 8 (3%) were granted, and 6 (2%) were dismissed. The number of other motions disposed of in 2004 was 975. The following chart represents a summary of the cases and motions disposed of by the Court of Appeals in 2004.

Court of Appeals - Summary of Dispositions



The Court of Appeals heard oral argument in 65 cases in 2004. 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.