SUPREME COURT OF MISSISSIPPI

1999 ANNUAL REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Executive Summary of the 1999 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

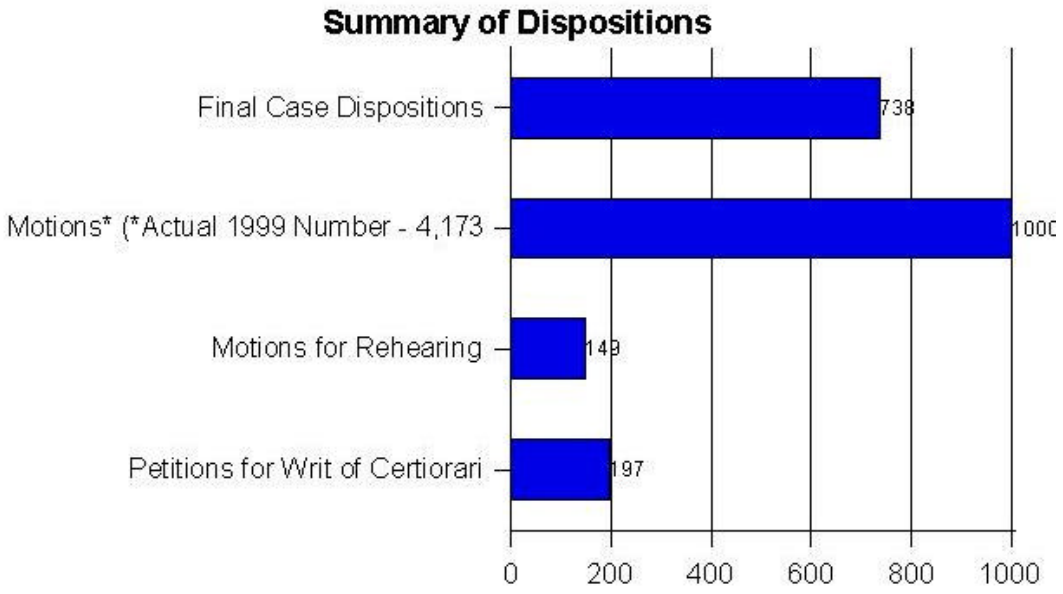
There were 1,065 new filings in 1999. The Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals disposed of 1,373 cases in 1999. Of this number, 1,040 involved decisions on the merits. The remaining 333 were dismissed. In civil dispositions on the merits, the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals affirmed 407 (or 62%) and reversed 250 (or 38%) for a total of 657 civil disposition on the merits. In criminal dispositions on the merits, the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals affirmed 297 (or 78%) and reversed 86 (or 22%) for a total of 383 criminal disposition on the merits. There were 1,223 cases on the merits pending before the Appellate Courts as of December 31, 1999.

SUPREME COURT

The 1999 Supreme Court disposed of 738 cases. Of this number, 420 involved decisions on the merits. The remaining 318 were dismissed. Of the cases disposed of on the merits, 307 (or 73%) were civil and 113 (or 27%) were criminal. Overall, the Court affirmed 224 (or 53%) of the cases disposed of in 1999, while reversing 149 (or 36%), reversing in part 40 (or 9%) and dismissing 7 (or 2%). In civil dispositions, the Court affirmed 163 (or 53%), reversed 104 (or 34%), reversed in part 34 (or 11%) and dismissed 6 (or 2%), for a total of 307 cases. In criminal dispositions, the Court affirmed 61 (or 54%), reversed 45 (or 40%), reversed in part 6 (or 5%) and dismissed 1 (or 1%), for a total of 113 criminal dispositions.

The Supreme Court disposed of 149 motions for rehearing in 1999; 131 were denied, and 18 were granted. The number of other motions disposed of in 1999 by the Court was 4,173. In 1999, 11 interlocutory appeals under Mississippi Rule of Appellate Procedure 5 were granted, 61 were denied, and 9 had other dispositions. The Court disposed of 197 Petitions for Writ of Certiorari: 137 were denied, 57 were granted, and 3 were dismissed. The

following chart represents a summary of the cases, motions, and petitions disposed of by the Supreme Court in 1999.



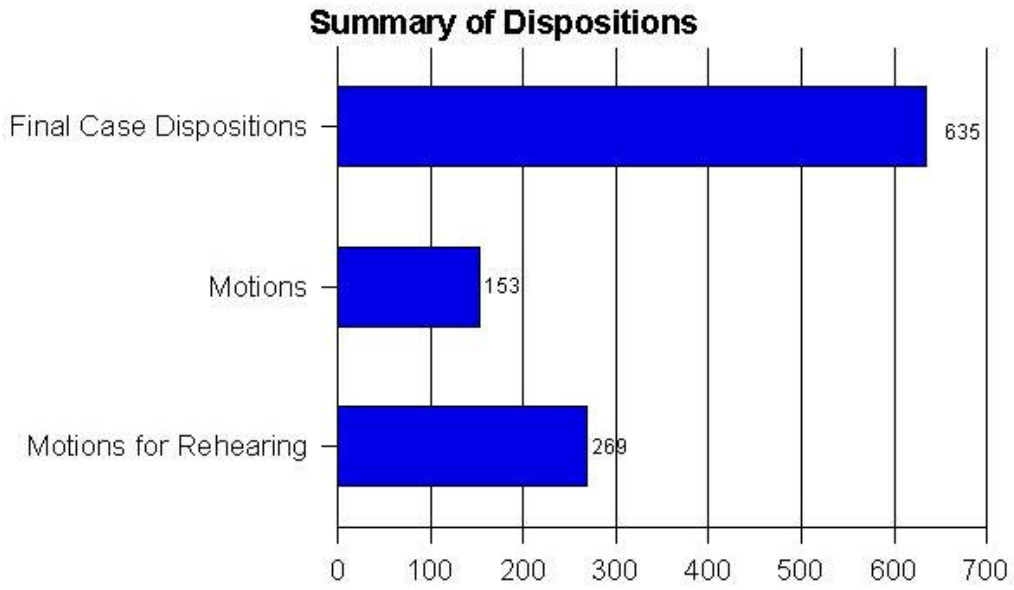
The Supreme Court heard oral argument in 26 cases in 1999. The majority of cases disposed of by the Supreme Court originated in circuit court.

COURT OF APPEALS

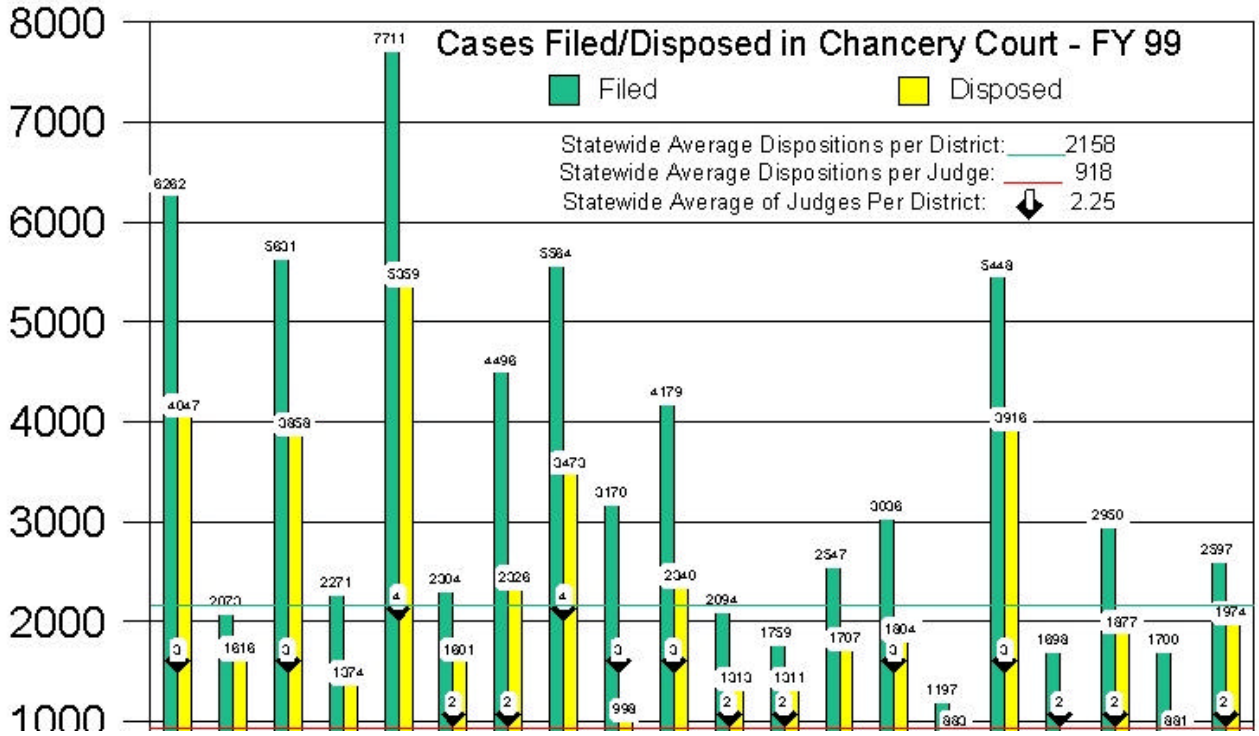
In 1999, the Court of Appeals disposed of 635 cases. Of this number, 620 involved decision on the merits. The remaining 15 were dismissed. Of the cases disposed of on the merits, 350 (or 57%) were civil and 270 (or 43%) were criminal. Overall, the Court of Appeals affirmed 473 (or 76%) of the cases disposed of in 1999, while reversing 147 (or 24%) in whole or in part. In civil dispositions, the Court of Appeals affirmed 238 (or 68%) and reversed 112 (or 32%), for a total of 350 civil dispositions. In criminal dispositions, the Court of Appeals affirmed 235 (or 86%) and reversed 35 (or 14%), for a total of 270 criminal dispositions. Sixty-eight (68) cases originated in the Workers' Compensation Commission, Employment Security Commission, State Personnel Board, or other state agency.

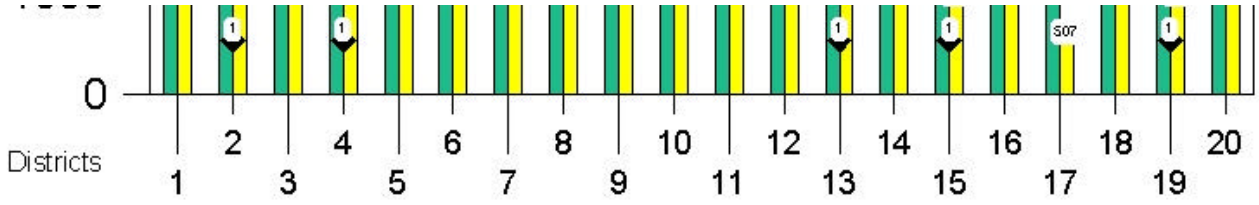
The Court of Appeals disposed of 269 motions for rehearing in 1999: 263 were denied, and 6 were granted. Opinions were written on 20 motions for rehearing. Of the total decisions, 42% had motions for rehearing filed. The

number of other motions disposed of in 1999 was 153. The following chart represents a summary of the cases and motions disposed of by the Court of Appeals in 1999.

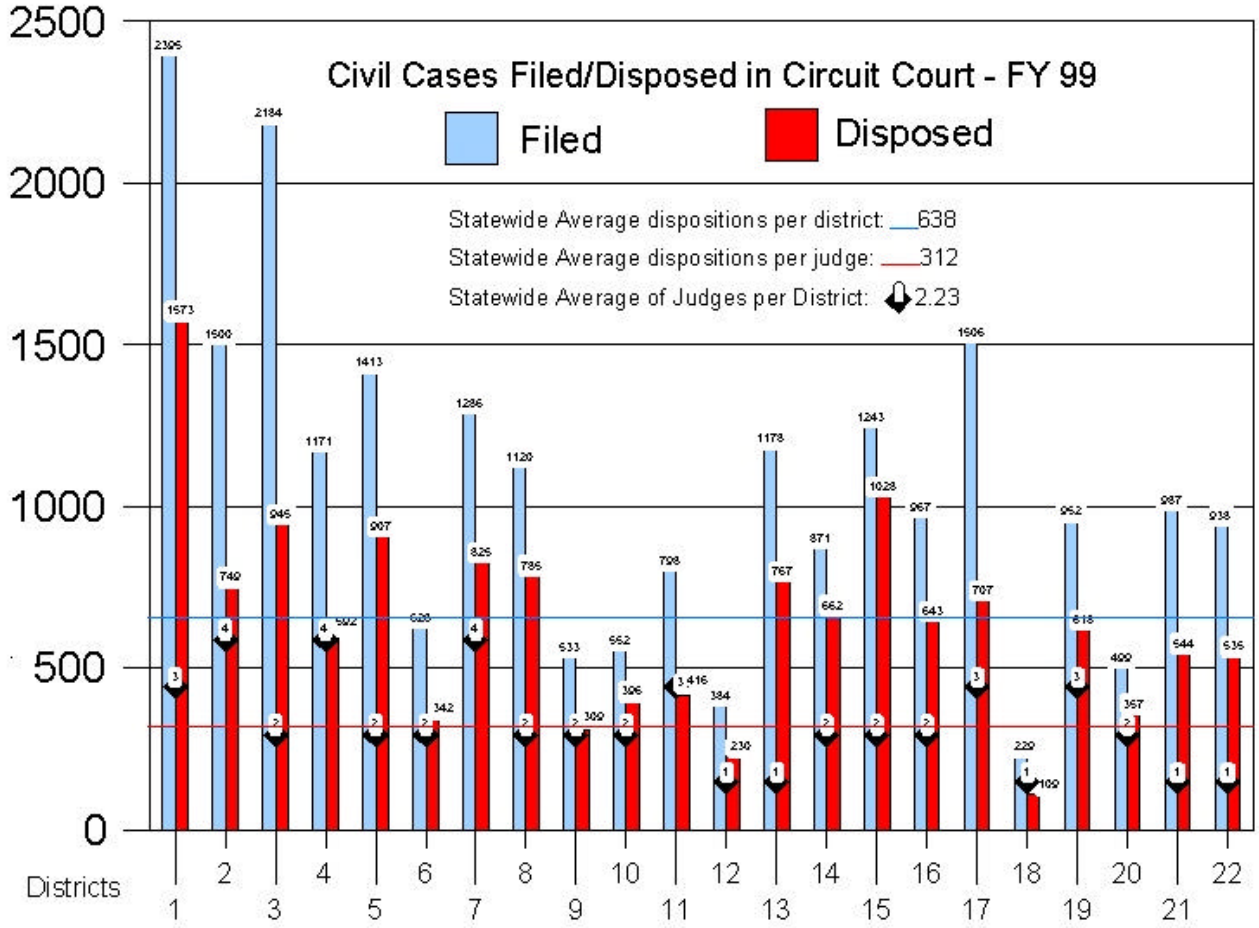


The Court of Appeals heard oral argument in 44 cases in 1999. The majority of cases disposed of by the Court of Appeals originated in circuit court.

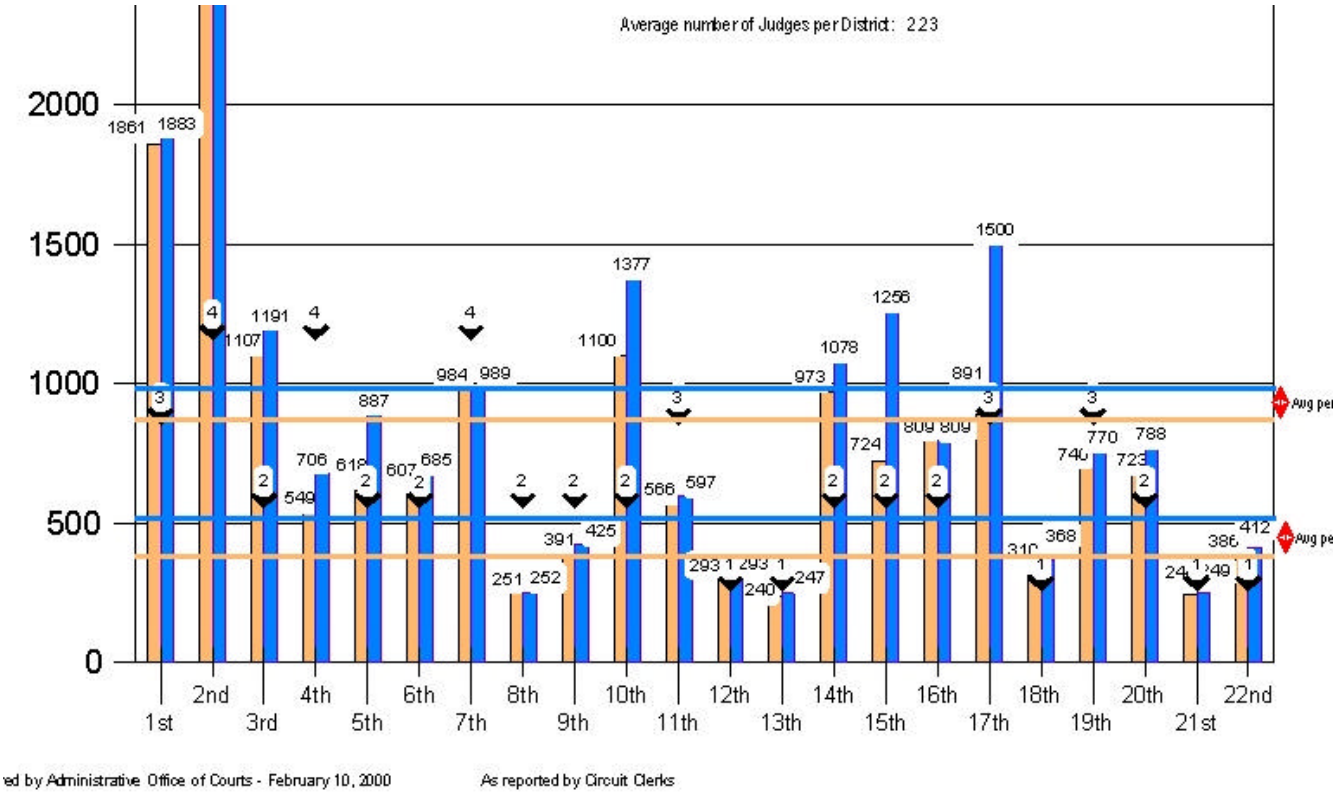


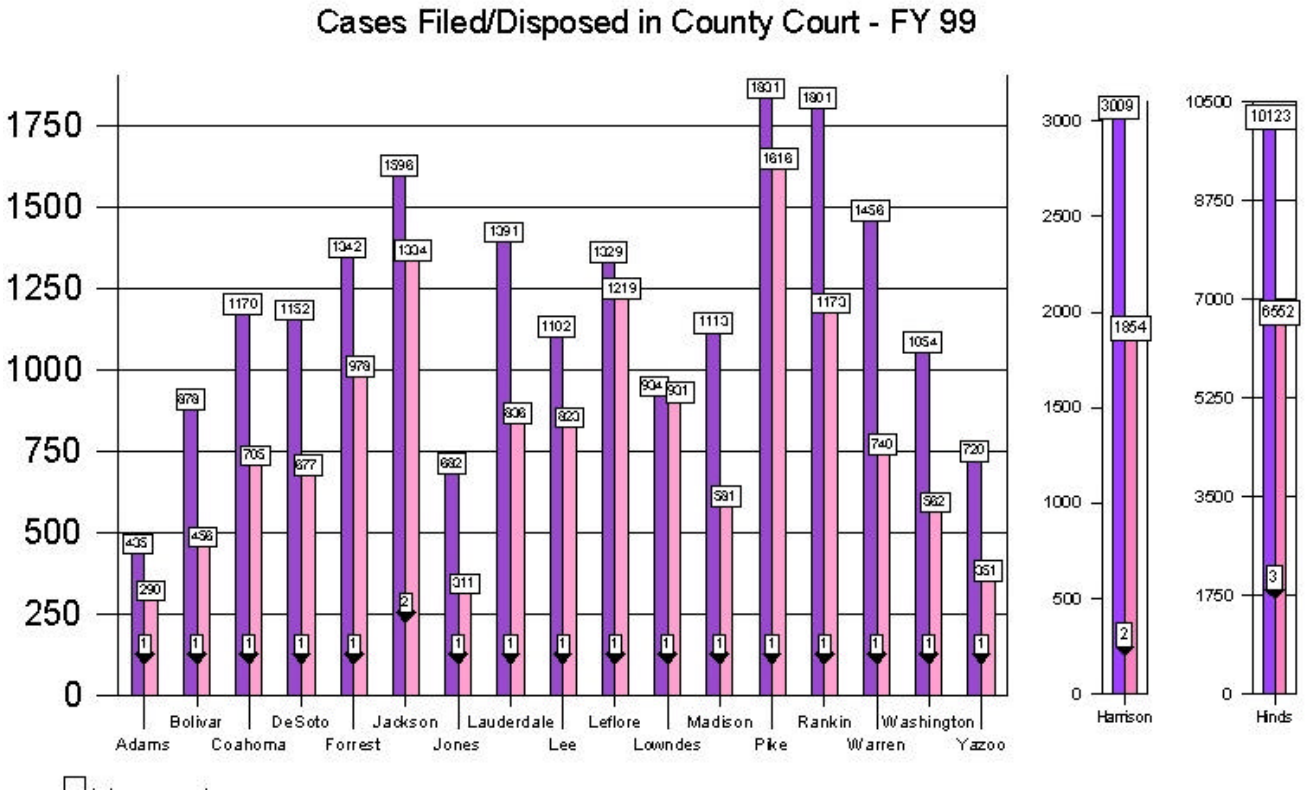


Prepared by Administrative Office of Courts as Reported by Chancery Clerks - March 29, 2000



Prepared by Administrative Office of Courts - As Reported by Circuit Clerks - March 29, 2000

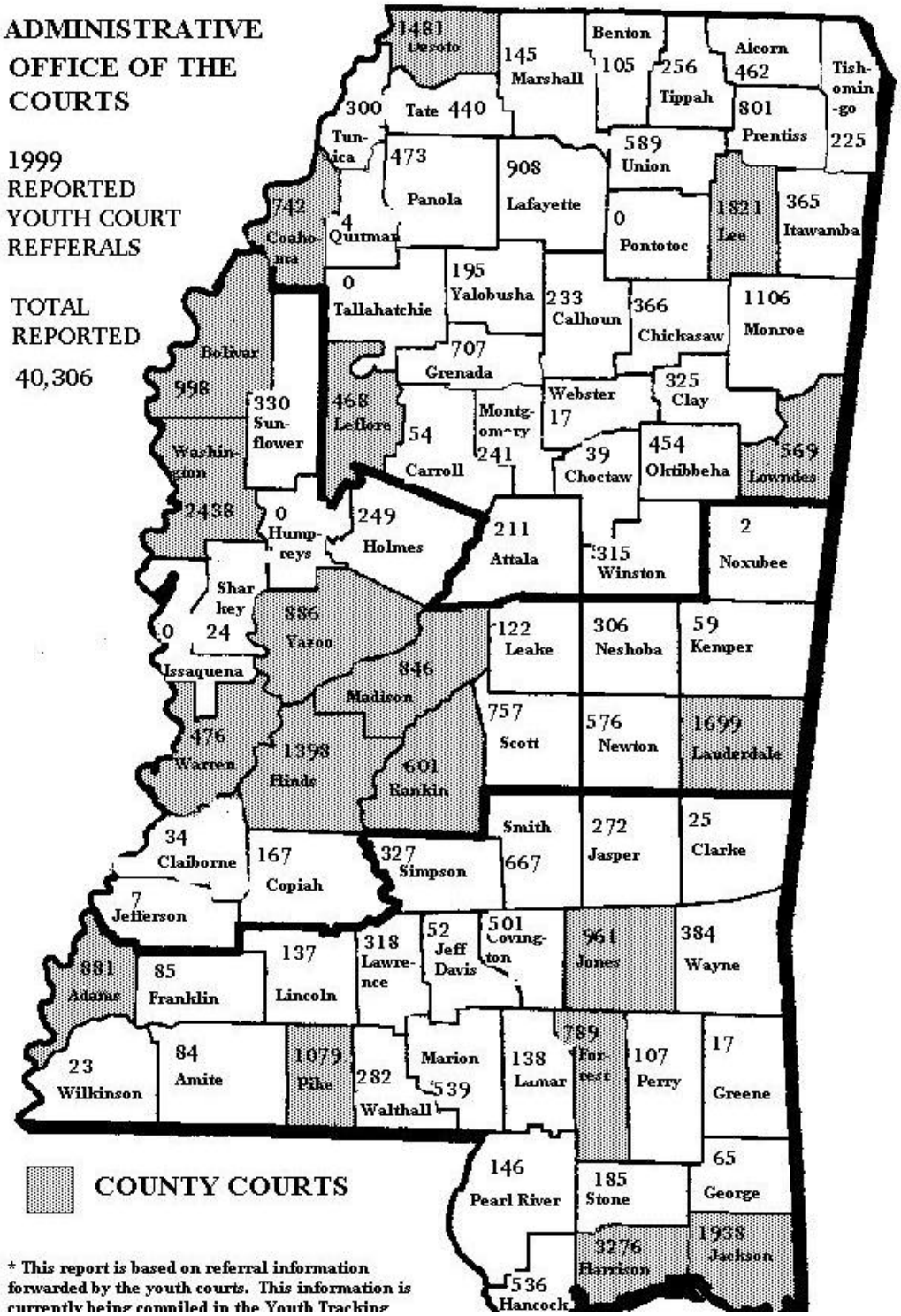

Average number of Judges per District: 223
2000
1500
1000
500
0
1st
2nd
3rd
4th
5th
6th
7th
8th
9th
10th
11th
12th
13th
14th
15th
16th
17th
18th
19th
20th
21st
22nd
ed by Administrative Office of Courts - February 10, 2000
As reported by Circuit Clerks


Cases Filed/Disposed in County Court - FY 99
1750
1500
1250
1000
750
500
250
0
Adams
Bolivar
Coahoma
DeSoto
Forrest
Jackson
Jones
Lauderdale
Lee
Leflore
Lowndes
Madison
Pike
Rankin
Warren
Washington
Yazoo
Harrison
Hinds

1 Judges per county

Statewide Average Dispositions per County: 1159
Statewide Average Dispositions per Judge: 1102

Excluding Harrison & Hinds:
Statewide Average Dispositions per County: 1246
Statewide Average Dispositions per Judge: 852



* This report is based on referral information forwarded by the youth courts. This information is currently being compiled in the Youth Tracking

System. This information has not yet been validated by the youth courts.