



ANNUAL REPORT
of the
NEVADA JUDICIARY

Fiscal Year 2005

Annual Report of the Nevada Judiciary Fiscal Year 2005

The Work of Nevada's Courts
July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005



SUPREME COURT OF NEVADA

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A Message from the Chief Justice



Fiât Justitia. . .let justice be done.

This is the Nevada Judiciary's mission. A mission carried out through the dedication and hard-work of Nevada's judges and judicial officers. Across the Nation, no judiciary faces the challenges imposed upon Nevada's judges. Limited resources and antiquated facilities are compounded on a daily basis by population and caseload growth that exceeds all National figures. Yet through it all, Nevada's judiciary continues to excel.

This annual report contains volumes of statistics, but numbers only tell a part of the story. Data cannot convey the hours spent by judges agonizing over decisions that impact peoples' lives. Civil and family cases are becoming more complex. Issues involving juvenile offenders, care of abused and/or neglected children, drug or alcohol abusers and the mentally ill increasingly demand judicial resources and intervention. Judges can no longer afford to just decide cases; we must participate in the restructuring of the judicial system. And Nevada has risen to this challenge.

The State of the Judiciary included in this report gives a more detailed list of the judiciary's accomplishments in the last year, but in short, we have:

- Expanded specialty court services and decreased criminal recidivism amongst defendants with drug, alcohol and mental health issues.



- Implemented new case management procedures and innovative technologies to give litigants greater access to the court systems.
- Developed standardized forms and better training for court personnel resulting in more user-friendly forums for self-represented litigants.
- Improved disposition rates, though as a result of growth and insufficient resources we still fall short of national standards.

As citizens of Nevada, we can be proud of the efforts of our courts and judges. As this report demonstrates, despite caseloads far above national averages, Nevada's judiciary does outstanding work. I congratulate my judicial colleagues, court officials, and staff on a job well done.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy A. Becker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nancy A. Becker
Chief Justice
Supreme Court of Nevada

Report from the Administrative Office of the Courts

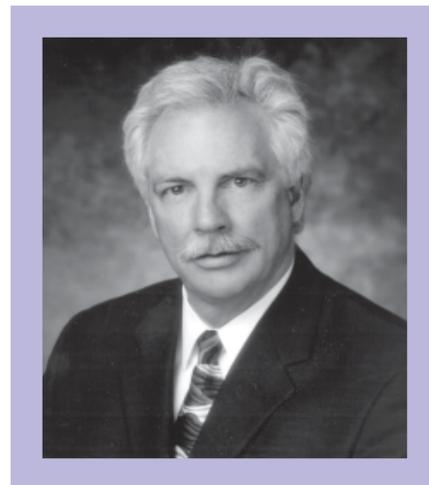
Our 2005 Judicial Branch Annual Report documents the work of the courts for the last fiscal year. The report contains caseload information for all Nevada courts - the Supreme Court, District Courts, Justice Courts, and Municipal Courts. The courts of our state remain busy forums of dispute resolution with case filings increasing for all jurisdictions.

As one of only 11 states without an intermediate appellate court, we continue to offer a comparison of the Supreme Court of Nevada to other appellate courts with similar characteristics.

With the passage of AB29 in 2003 to provide funding for Specialty Courts, we have added eight Specialty Courts across the state. An expanded Specialty Court section has been added to the report this year.

The 2003 Legislature passed an increase to the limit of general civil litigation in Justice Courts. The previous limit was \$7,500 and the new limit is \$10,000. This change became effective January 1, 2005. This time, we were able to measure the influence this legislation had on caseloads - the Justice Court general civil caseload increased more than 3,600 cases from January to June 2005 over the same period the year before while District Court civil filings decreased nearly 900 cases for the same periods. Clearly, legislative changes such as these have a direct impact on the judiciary.

In District Courts, criminal and family caseloads continued to climb at about 6 percent, closely following the state population increase. The juvenile and civil caseloads, however, were relatively flat. In the previous few years, the civil caseload has increased between 3 and 11 percent. The flat civil filings this year may be owing to the change in case dollar limit noted above.



The statistics for the limited jurisdiction courts - Justice and Municipal Courts - show increases as well. Statewide, the Justice Courts' caseloads had increases similar to the population increases and the Municipal Courts were a little flat, although still increasing.

One thing is certain - Nevada trial courts continue to have burgeoning caseloads. The judges and their staffs continue to provide exceptional service to their constituents while their counties and cities face financial hardships. Courts, as well as other government agencies, continue to do more with the same or fewer resources.

The Nevada judiciary continues to strive to ensure all our citizens have equal access to justice, including our rural citizens. As we begin to see trends, such data will assist the courts in determining the resources required to meet the caseload—from judges and staff to courthouses and supplies. Information about courts will be key for improved court administration and will be key for our courts to meet the needs of Nevada citizens and the increasing expectations of State and local governments.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Titus".

Ron Titus
State Court Administrator
Supreme Court of Nevada

STATE OF THE JUDICIARY

Presented by Chief Justice Nancy A. Becker
to the Legislature of Nevada,
Seventy-Third Session, March 2, 2005

Lt. Governor Hunt, Senator Raggio, Speaker Perkins, distinguished members of the Senate and the Assembly, honorable Constitutional Officers, my esteemed colleagues of the Supreme Court and trial judiciary, and honored guests. It is my privilege and my honor to be able to present to you a synopsis of the tremendous efforts taken by the 150 men and women of Nevada's judiciary over the last biennium and our goals for the future.

First, however, I would like to introduce my colleagues, the Justices of the Nevada Supreme Court. Justice Bob Rose, Justice Bill Maupin, Justice Mark Gibbons, Justice Mike Douglas, Justice Jim Hardesty and Justice Ron Parraguirre. I also want to convey the judiciary's appreciation of the Legislature's kind words and thoughts on the passing of our colleague the Honorable Myron E. Leavitt. He is sorely missed.

Other judges from the District Courts, Justices' Courts and Municipal Courts are also with us today and I would like them to stand and be recognized.

Although you interact more with members of the Supreme Court, you should know that a District Judges' Association exists in Nevada and they are ably represented this year by their president, the Honorable Michael P. Gibbons of the 9th Judicial District Court in Douglas County. Not to be outdone, the Justices of the Peace and Municipal Judges also have an association and this year's president is the Honorable Cedric Kerns of the Las Vegas Municipal Court.

The courts also work closely with two other entities: the State Bar of Nevada, represented by President Anne Price McCarthy and Executive Director Allen Kimbrough, and the William Boyd School of Law, whose Dean, Richard Morgan is also with us today.

Finally, I would like you to see the faces of the Supreme Court's executive staff – Janette Bloom, Clerk of the Court; Joe Carpenter, Legal Counsel Criminal Division; Leslie Davis, Legal Counsel Civil Division; Kathleen Harrington, Director of the Supreme Court Law Library; and Ron Titus, Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts.

What is a judge?

The best description of the job I have found is not new – it was written in 1780 and is found in the Constitution of the State of Massachusetts:

“It is essential to the preservation of the rights of every individual, his life, liberty, property, and character, that there be an impartial interpretation of the laws, and administration of justice. It is the right of every citizen to be tried by judges as free, impartial, and independent as the lot of humanity will admit.”

There was a time when the “lot of humanity” did not include women or minorities. Indeed, when Drew Pearson and Robert Allen wrote a book about the United States Supreme Court in 1936 they entitled it “*Nine Old Men.*” As I stand here today I am proud to say that the Judiciary of Nevada has achieved a level of diversity unparalleled in the State's history.

We are the “lot of humanity.”

I am an example of that diversity. Not just because I am a woman, but because of my family background. I

am the granddaughter of three immigrants. Two were Irish Catholics, one was a Russian Jew. My fourth grandparent, who was born in America, was the son of German Jewish immigrants. When I was young, my Irish grandmother was visiting at the same time as one of my Russian great-aunts. Both had immigrated in their teens, so they spoke English with heavy accents. They were watching 50s wrestling on the TV. One was cheering and swearing in Yiddish while the other was matching her in Gaelic. They understood, respected and enjoyed each other's company, despite their divergent cultural backgrounds.

Every day, judges from diverse backgrounds, make decisions affecting people's lives. Every day we are faced with complex decisions: should the death penalty be imposed, were the parties given a fair trial, who should be given custody of the children, how long should a child remain in foster care, should a juvenile offender be certified as an adult and face life imprisonment? We resolve them to the best of our ability based on the law and the evidence presented in an individual case. The Honorable Felix Frankfurter, one of the most recognized jurists in

*... the Judiciary
of Nevada has
achieved a level
of diversity
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the State's
history.*

State of the Judiciary Message (cont.)

American history, said that because judging involves fallible creatures it is essential to get:

“[people] who bring to their task, first and foremost, humility and an understanding of the range of problems and of their own inadequacy in dealing with them; . . . loyalty . . . to nothing except the effort to find their path through precedent, through policy, through history, through their own gifts of insight to the best judgment that poor fallible creatures can arrive at in the most difficult of all tasks, the adjudication between man and man, between man and state, through reason called law.”

Such is the life of a judge. But there are many moments of joy – marriages, adoptions and occasionally, an unusual request. A few years ago, I received a call from a friend. Knowing that I could perform marriages, she asked if I could marry Sloopy and Casey. I was puzzled – you see, Sloopy and Casey are birds – cockatiels to be exact. My friend went on to explain that her granddaughter had seen the birds, as my friend put it, vo-de-o-do-ing in their cage and asked if Sloopy and Casey were married. Hence, the reason for the phone call. I later unofficially presided over their joining. It must have had some meaning however, because although Sloopy and Casey had been a couple for 3 years before the ceremony, they had no offspring. After the ceremony they proceeded to hatch seventeen chicks. Who knew?

So what does judging in general have to do with the State of the Judiciary? Our melting pot culture, combined with our unique governmental system, is what distinguishes us from other Nations. And a key factor in that government is the Judicial Branch and its relationship with the Legislative and Executive Branches.

George Washington once wrote that:

“[T]he due administration of justice is the firmest pillar of good Government . . . [the judicial department is] essential to the happiness of our Country, and to the stability of its political system.”

Our system of justice and the creation of three branches of government, Executive, Legislative and

Judicial, is a defining aspect of this great Nation and State. Each year, judges from around the world attend courses at the National Judicial College to study America’s judiciary. Since the fall of the Soviet Union, Russian Federation Judges have attended seminars and classes, interacting with Nevada Judges, in order to create a viable judicial branch in their country. Our system, which has withstood the test of time for over 200 years, is a shining example of democracy in action. It exemplifies the Rule of Law; a society governed by law, not violence and terrorism.

Last year, over a quarter of a million people were assisted in accessing the courts.

Because of our example, the Ukraine Republic adopted the Rule of Law. During their recent turmoil, all sides agreed to, and abided by, a legal decision of the Ukraine Supreme Court, thus avoiding military conflict. It is for this reason that other nations study our judicial system.

Yet a judicial system cannot stand alone. It exists with the cooperation and support of the Legislative and Executive Branches. Democracy is a fluid concept. As noted by Ilka Chase:

“Democracy is not an easy form of government, because it is never final; it is a living, changing organism, with a continuous shifting and adjusting of balance between individual freedom and general order.”

The Legislative and Executive Branches of this State, including the counties and cities, have been strong supporters of the Judicial Branch. Without you, Nevada’s judiciary would still be locked in the 19th century. Your assistance was essential to the development of new programs and methods of managing cases with a united purpose of promoting access to justice for all Nevadans.

I want to tell you a story that illustrates this point. Sixteen years ago, justices of the peace and municipal judges had no authority to suspend misdemeanor sentences. We had no ability to tackle recidivism through programs to combat domestic violence and drunk driving. We discussed the matter with the counties and cities, prosecutors and defense counsel and all agreed that expanding the authority of the judges made sense. We came to you, the Legislature, to seek that authority and you granted it. Such programs, with intensive judicial monitoring, have low-

State of the Judiciary Message (cont.)

ered recidivism rates for misdemeanor crimes. Many of the Legislators who made this possible still serve today – Legislators like Senators Coffin, Raggio, Rhoads, Titus and Townsend, and Assemblymen Arberry, Carpenter and Marvel.

But you need to know more – you need to know what Legislative, Executive, and Judicial efforts have meant to people. So I'll give you one example. Eighteen years ago there was no mental health court. However, all Branches of Government came together for a common cause. A loose consortium of downtown leaders, nonprofits, the Las Vegas Municipal Court, the Las Vegas City Council and City Attorney's Office, the Clark County Public Defender and the State Division of Mental Health, specifically Carlos Brandenburg, formed to try a new method of handling mentally ill individuals.

This is the true story of one of those individuals – I'll call him "John" though that is not his real name. I tell this story only to illustrate my point – although there is humor in the story, there is nothing humorous about how mental illness affected John.

John was arrested for stealing t-shirts from a downtown casino. He stole because he was unemployed as a result of his mental state. You see, when John was booked into the jail, he told officers he was from the planet Mars. A mental health social worker interviewed him and concluded John wasn't joking – he believed he was from Mars. Before his probable cause hearing, the prosecutor, public defender and I were all informed of the circumstances. John indicated that he understood the charges against him and that stealing was illegal on Mars too. He wanted to plead guilty, but was concerned that his spaceship would be towed if he stayed in jail too long. I inquired if the ship was disguised in some fashion and John told me yes – it looked like an old station wagon with California plates and he gave me a license number. We located the vehicle with the help of the hotel security where it was parked and, with their cooperation, saw that it wasn't towed. With the assistance of the social workers and nonprofits, we determined John wasn't dangerous, even when confronted about his beliefs. We were able to get John a job with an employer who knew about and under-

stood John's delusion. John became independent again, working, paying taxes and never coming before the law again. We, the Judicial, Legislative and Executive Branches, in partnership with the community, gave John his life back.

In the eighteen years since John's case, the Judiciary has undergone substantial changes. Changes made possible by the partnership between the three Branches, locally and statewide. These are just some of the programs and processes created by the judiciary with the assistance of the Legislature, Governor and local governments:

*Drug Court programs
... resulting in
70 percent or greater
decreases in recidi-
vism rates, saving
taxpayers hundreds of
thousands of dollars.*

- Self-help Centers in the Washoe County and Clark County Family Divisions, with outreach to other counties and Carson City. Last year, over a quarter of a million people were assisted in accessing the courts. Over three million forms were accessed through the Centers' websites.

- Violence Intervention Programs – courts provide space for volunteers who assist victims of domestic violence with protective

orders, shelter and counseling information.

- Drug Court programs servicing counties throughout the State resulting in 70 percent or greater decreases in recidivism rates, saving taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars. Last year alone, over 30 drug-free babies were born to participants in such programs.

- Court annexed short trial, arbitration and mediation programs to facilitate expeditious and cost-effective resolution of small civil suits.

- Fast-track criminal appeals, settlement conferences and panel hearings in the Supreme Court resulting in a 40 percent decrease in the Courts' backlog.

- Implementation of the Uniform System of Judicial Records – providing information on court operations and resources necessary to court management in the 21st century. Because of this System, the Supreme Court is able to publish annual reports. Reports like the one distributed to you earlier in this Session, and available on our website. They provide a wealth of information on the operations and needs of the Judicial Branch.

- Technology and case management systems enabling the Nation's busiest courts to tackle over-

State of the Judiciary Message (cont.)

whelming caseloads more efficiently.

- Creation of standardized forms for family matters and protection orders under the auspices of the Supreme Court Pro Se Assistance Council and the Supreme Court and District Court Law Library Commissions.

- Creation of standards and case-processing procedures for family cases that have become a model for family courts around the Country.

- Support for legal services programs whose volunteer attorneys have provided millions of dollars of free legal services to economically disadvantaged citizens.

- Creation of rules and training for court staff and law librarians governing provision of services to self-represented litigants.

- Increased programs and representation for abused and neglected children under the auspices of Clark County Legal Services and Assemblywoman Barbara Buckley.

- Implementation of the recommendations of the Supreme Court

Jury Improvement Commission – whose work has been recognized by American Bar Association President Robert Gray as a model for jury improvement in the Nation.

I could go on, but the point has been made. Many judges, among them my colleagues on the Court, were instrumental in these programs. Governor Guinn and other members of the Executive Branch were also key advocates. Legislators like Speaker Perkins, Assemblywoman Giunchigliani, and Assemblyman Hettrick, as well as Senators Beers, Cegavske, and Mathews played their part. And the local mayors, councilpersons and commissioners were essential components. These programs are the result of enormous commitment by government as a whole.

Daniel Webster said:

“Justice, Sir, is the great interest of man on earth. It is the ligament which holds civilized beings and civilized nations together.”

The Legislative and Executive Branches are the personal trainers whose support allows the judicial ligaments to stretch. Still, every ligament can only stretch so far without rupturing. Growth in caseloads

and lack of resources have already strained our judicial ligaments – along with our tendons and muscles. We wish to walk freely, not hobble on canes or crutches, and so we call upon you once again to help.

Over the last 4 years, caseloads in the Washoe-Reno-Sparks and Greater Las Vegas Judicial Districts have grown by over 40 percent. In some instances, the growth in filings has exceeded growth in the general population. In addition, the complexity of cases has increased, requiring more judicial hours per case. This affects the ability of courts to process cases in a timely fashion. The American Bar Association standard regarding disposition times for criminal cases indicates that a court should dispose of 100 percent of its criminal cases within 1 year. Clark County, for example, disposes of only 63 percent of its criminal cases in 1 year and is falling further behind. And, although the Family Divisions of the Washoe County and Clark County District Courts are meeting standards for timely processing of domestic cases, the increased case-

In some instances, the growth in filings has exceeded growth in the general population.

loads make it impossible to maintain those standards. The civil case dispositions also fall short of meeting ABA standards. Percentages alone do not give an adequate picture. We are talking about delays in thousands of cases.

These courts have implemented tremendous changes in case processing to improve case dispositions, but the growth is simply outstripping all of their efforts. The National Center for State Courts indicates that a trial judge’s caseload should be about 1,400 case per judge. In Washoe County that figure is 1,800 cases per judge and in Clark County each judge has 2,400 cases. For appellate courts, the standard is 100 cases per justice. The Nevada Supreme Court’s average per justice is 246 cases.

In the face of this overwhelming growth, we are seeking new judges and an increase in funding of the senior judge program to avoid causing Nevada’s citizens increased delays in the resolution of their cases. No victim, litigant, business entity or injured party should see a case linger for lack of judicial resources.

The rural courts are not without their problems. Our rural judges spend days traveling between communities. Citizens regularly travel over a hundred miles roundtrip to access a courthouse. Juveniles must be driven hundreds of miles to facilities in other

State of the Judiciary Message (cont.)

counties. My colleagues in rural communities face unique challenges. Take jury selection, for example. Even Mark Twain noted how difficult it can be to select a jury in a small community. He said:

“ . . . a jury of twelve men were impaneled – a jury who swore that they had neither heard, read, talked about nor expressed an opinion concerning a murder which the very cattle in the corrals . . . the sagebrush and the stones in the street were cognizant of.”

Judges in rural areas know the litigants, the jurors and the community. Each and every decision that judge makes will impact on that community. It is an awesome responsibility and I wish to publicly acknowledge their dedication and service to Nevada.

Last session, this august body funded a study of the rural criminal justice system. A large facet of that study involved the courts. Thanks to the efforts of Senator McGinness and others, a comprehensive look at the needs of the rural justice system was accomplished. Issues such as lack of adequate local juvenile facilities, counselors, secured court facilities, and management staff were reviewed.

As a result of the Study's recommendations, several bills will be introduced this Session to address these issues, among them the construction of a new courthouse in Ely and the establishment of a Rural Court Coordinator position in the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Finally, I want to mention another report that you will be seeing in a few days. In 2003, then Chief Justice Deborah Agosti undertook a formidable task. She created a Commission composed of judges, business leaders, representatives of local government and leg-

islators, namely Senator Amodei and Assemblyman Anderson, to determine an estimate of the costs to run the entire judiciary, not just the operations of the Supreme Court. Her efforts, together with those who served on the Commission, resulted in a comprehensive look at the cost to operate our statewide judicial system and how it is funded.

It has long been known that the Supreme Court's operations represent less than 1 percent of the State's total budget. But such information was not available about the total Judicial Branch because funding and expenses are divided between the State and local

governments. As a result of the Commission's efforts, we now know that the entire Judicial Branch would only make up 5 percent of the State's budget. When the Judicial Branch is compared to the combined budgets of the State and local governments, the Judicial Branch represents an even smaller percentage of the total expenditures.

But the Commission was just a first step. From here, we ask the help of the Legislature, community leaders, local governments and the judiciary in taking the next step—implementation of the Commission's recommendations and formation of a second commission to determine the optimum method for funding the judiciary in the future.

I have spoken today of the past and the future, of all we have accomplished and all we can accomplish. This is the goal of the judiciary. To serve Nevada's citizens by providing a fair, impartial, cost-effective and expeditious method of resolving disputes, protecting children, adjudicating guilt and, where possible, rehabilitating individuals into self-sufficient productive citizens. Together we can achieve this goal.

Thank you.

It has long been known that the Supreme Court's operations represent less than 1 percent of the State's operating budget.

Nevada Judiciary

The Nevada Judiciary is one of three branches of government—the other two are the Executive and Legislative branches. The Nevada Judiciary has the responsibility to provide impartial, efficient, and accessible dispute resolution in legal matters.

Most of the public is familiar with or has contact with the Municipal and Justice Courts; these are the courts that handle traffic and parking citations and lesser civil filings. Both of these courts have limited jurisdiction.

The Municipal Courts manage cases involving violations of traffic and misdemeanor ordinances that occur within the limits of incorporated municipalities. Each of these courts is funded by the city and most of the funds collected by the Municipal Court go into the municipalities' general fund. During fiscal year 2005, Nevada had 17 Municipal Courts that were presided over by 30 Municipal Court Judges with 10 of them also serving as Justices of the Peace. See Appendix Table A1 for the number of Judges in each court.

The Justice Courts handle misdemeanor criminal and traffic matters, small claims disputes, evictions, and other civil matters \$10,000 or less.¹ The Justices of the Peace also preside over felony and gross misdemeanor arraignments and conduct preliminary hearings to determine if sufficient evidence exists to hold defendants for trial at District Court. Each county funds Justice Courts, and the funds collected by the courts go to their respective county treasurer for disbursement to county and state entities. During fiscal year 2005, Nevada had 48 Justice Courts presided over by 64 Justices of the Peace with 10 of them also serving as Municipal Court Judges.

The District Courts have general jurisdiction over all legal disputes. These are the courts where criminal, civil, family, and juvenile matters are generally resolved through arbitration, mediation, and bench or jury trials. [See section *Alternative Dispute Resolution Program*.] The Judges also hear appeals from Justice and Municipal Court cases. The funding for District Courts is split between the State and counties. District Court Judges' salaries are paid by the State while the county pays for support staff and court facilities. The 17 county courts in Nevada are divided into 9 Judicial Districts presided over by 60 Judges.

¹ The 2003 Legislature passed Assembly Bill 100, which increased the amount of civil disputes heard in Justice Courts to \$10,000 effective January 2005.

The Supreme Court is the state's highest court and its primary responsibility is to review and rule on appeals from District Court cases. The court does not conduct fact-finding trials; rather, the Justices determine if legal or procedural errors were committed. Generally, the Supreme Court is funded almost equally from the State general fund and from administrative assessments. The Supreme Court has seven Justices.

Uniform System for Judicial Records

The Uniform System for Judicial Records (USJR) was established in June 1999 by Supreme Court order. USJR requires trial courts to submit information defined in the Nevada USJR Court Statistical Reporting Model (USJR Model) to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) monthly. The information in the USJR Model is divided into four case categories: criminal, civil, family, and juvenile. In fiscal year 2005 (July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005), two types of statistics were collected in each of these categories. The two types are *cases filed* (the number and type of cases opened) and *dispositions* (the number and type of cases adjudicated or closed). The caseload and dispositions for each case category have been defined and consistently categorized for every court.

As technology and resources allow, future phases of USJR will be defined and data will be collected. The next phase will include events in court case processing and the status of pending cases.

This annual report provides caseload inventory (filing) and disposition statistics for the Supreme Court and all 82 trial courts in the State—17 District Courts, 48 Justice Courts, and 17 Municipal Courts. Where court information varies from the model or is incomplete, explanatory footnotes are provided.

Statewide, the total nontraffic caseload increased 4 percent overall, although increases and decreases varied among the three trial court levels. This increase in caseload is close to the annual increase in population (about 5 percent). One interesting fact is that the overall civil caseload is increasing at a faster rate than most other case types. The civil caseload is nearly equal to the criminal caseload, with each exceeding 153,000 cases filed. The trends in each case type, including civil, for the last 6 years can be seen in Figure 1.

For fiscal year 2005, District Court total nontraffic caseload increased in three of the four case types; juvenile being the exception (Table 1). This corresponded to a statewide increase of nearly 4 percent. Criminal and family caseloads saw the largest increases in District Court at about 6 percent each. Civil and juvenile caseloads were relatively flat.

For fiscal year 2005, the Justice Court total caseload increased in all three categories—criminal,

civil, and traffic. Total nontraffic cases increased statewide more than 5 percent. Civil filings increased the most at 6 percent. Criminal and traffic and parking filings increased about 4 percent.

For fiscal year 2005, the Municipal Court criminal nontraffic case filings were flat while traffic and parking filings increased more than 2 percent. Civil filings in Municipal Courts are rare and are usually for the recovery of unpaid city utility bills.

Table 1. Reported Total Nevada Statewide Trial Court Caseload, Fiscal Years 2000-05.

Court	Fiscal Year	Criminal ¹	Civil ²	Family ²	Juvenile	Total Nontraffic caseload	Traffic and parking ³
District	2005	14,056	29,447	58,111	26,962	128,576	7,417
	2004	13,203	29,013	54,961	26,971	124,148	6,976
	2003	12,001	28,077	52,258	22,204	114,540	5,997
	2002	12,191	25,303	47,676	22,148	107,318	5,425
	2001	11,782	23,383	42,989	18,873	97,027	4,134
	2000	11,477	23,511	41,676	15,967	92,631	2,650
	Justice	2005	80,996	123,716	NJ	NJ	204,712
2004		77,748	116,551	NJ	NJ	194,299	395,978
2003		76,078	106,593	NJ	NJ	182,671	416,505
2002		76,928	101,204	NJ	NJ	178,132	398,679
2001		74,735	93,342	NJ	NJ	168,077	401,937
2000		73,881	83,968	NJ	NJ	157,849	409,829
Municipal		2005	58,521	0	NJ	NJ	58,521
	2004	58,235	20	NJ	NJ	58,255	236,126
	2003	59,074	3	NJ	NJ	59,077	240,554
	2002	56,796	125	NJ	NJ	56,921	239,394
	2001	50,925	NF	NJ	NJ	50,925	232,468
	2000	53,735	NF	NJ	NJ	53,735	253,078
	TOTAL	2005	153,573	153,163	58,111	26,962	391,809
2004		149,186	145,584	54,961	26,971	376,702	639,080
2003		147,153	134,673	52,258	22,204	356,288	663,056
2002		145,915	126,632	47,676	22,148	342,371	643,498
2001		137,442	116,725	42,989	18,873	316,029	638,539
2000		139,093	107,479	41,676	15,967	304,215	665,557

NF No filings.

NJ Not within court jurisdiction.

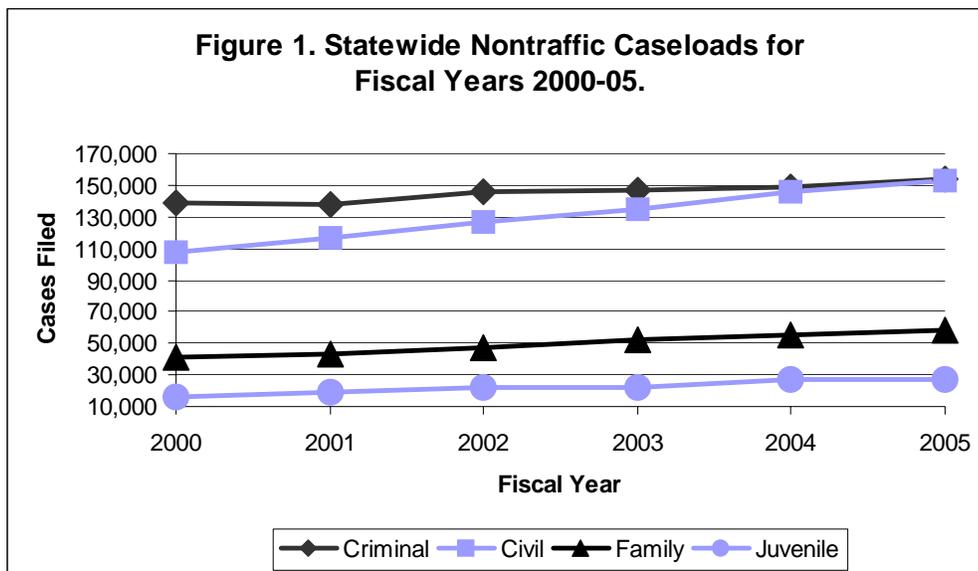
† Data totals revised from previous annual reports owing to improved data collection.

¹ Criminal includes felony, gross misdemeanor, and nontraffic misdemeanor filings and are counted by defendants.

² Reopened cases (see glossary) are included in totals. Numbers in these columns will be different from previous annual reports.

³ Traffic and parking filings are counted by charges, not defendants. Not all courts process parking violations. District Court numbers are juvenile traffic.

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.



Supreme Court

The Nevada Supreme Court is the court of last resort and the only appellate court in the state. Nevada does not have an intermediate appellate court. The main constitutional function of the Supreme Court is to review appeals from the decisions of the District Courts. As the only appellate court, the Supreme Court does not have discretionary review and must consider all cases filed. The Supreme Court

does not conduct any fact-finding trials, but rather determines whether procedural or legal errors were made in the rendering of lower court decisions.

As can be seen in Table 2, the Supreme Court had 2,022 filings during the last fiscal year, up 9 percent from the year before. The Justices disposed of 1,980 cases, an increase of 13 percent over last fiscal year.

Table 2. Nevada Supreme Court Cases Filed and Disposed, Fiscal Years 2000-05.

	Fiscal Year 2000	Fiscal Year 2001	Fiscal Year 2002	Fiscal Year 2003	Fiscal Year 2004	Fiscal Year 2005
Cases Filed						
Bar Matters	23	35	29	29	50	40
Appeals	1,661	1,474	1,478	1,519	1,541	1,646
Original Proceedings	240	231	226	282	248	317
Other	6	2	4	1	7	8
Reinstated	10	18	15	10	6	11
Total Cases Filed	1,940	1,760	1,752	1,841	1,852	2,022
Cases Disposed						
By Opinions	111	112	81	87	83	93
By Order	1,821	1,896	1,825	1,802	1,667	1,887
Total Cases Disposed	1,932	2,008	1,906	1,889	1,750	1,980
Cases Pending	1,890	1,628	1,474	1,426	1,528	1,570
Number of Opinions Written*	106	102	77	85	78	91

* Includes opinions that do not dispose of cases.

Source: Nevada Supreme Court Clerk's Office.

Table 3. Nevada Supreme Court Appeals Filed by Judicial District, Fiscal Years 2000-05.

Fiscal Year	Judicial Districts										Total ¹	
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	Ninth			
Civil Appeals Filed												
2005	47 7%	139 19%	9 1%	5 1%	9 1%	7 1%	8 1%	475 66%	20 3%	719 100%		
2004	47 6%	140 18%	12 2%	8 1%	13 2%	8 1%	19 2%	530 68%	8 1%	785 100%		
2003	28 4%	150 21%	16 2%	9 1%	10 1%	4 1%	10 1%	480 66%	15 2%	722 100%		
2002	43 6%	132 19%	11 2%	9 1%	10 1%	15 2%	5 1%	465 66%	11 2%	701 100%		
2001	23 3%	125 19%	15 2%	14 2%	12 2%	11 2%	10 1%	452 67%	9 1%	671 100%		
2000	34 4%	126 16%	14 2%	11 1%	6 1%	8 1%	7 1%	590 73%	13 2%	809 100%		
Criminal Appeals Filed												
2005	11 1%	240 26%	16 2%	17 2%	20 2%	11 1%	17 2%	591 64%	4 <1%	927 100%		
2004	14 2%	167 22%	12 2%	24 3%	10 1%	16 2%	22 3%	488 65%	3 <1%	756 100%		
2003	13 2%	206 26%	18 2%	29 4%	17 2%	13 2%	17 2%	478 60%	6 <1%	797 100%		
2002	28 4%	245 32%	18 2%	26 3%	21 3%	20 3%	15 2%	396 51%	8 <1%	777 100%		
2001	30 4%	244 30%	30 4%	22 3%	11 1%	27 3%	16 2%	419 52%	4 <1%	803 100%		
2000	42 5%	226 27%	29 3%	29 3%	26 3%	25 3%	16 2%	451 53%	8 <1%	852 100%		
Total Appeals Filed												
2005	58 4%	379 23%	25 2%	22 1%	29 2%	18 1%	25 2%	1,066 65%	24 1%	1,646 100%		
2004	61 4%	307 20%	24 2%	32 2%	23 1%	24 2%	41 3%	1,018 66%	11 1%	1,541 100%		
2003	41 3%	356 23%	34 2%	38 3%	27 2%	17 1%	27 2%	958 63%	21 1%	1,519 100%		
2002	71 5%	377 26%	29 2%	35 2%	31 2%	35 2%	20 1%	861 58%	19 1%	1,478 100%		
2001	53 4%	369 25%	45 3%	36 2%	23 2%	38 3%	26 2%	871 59%	13 1%	1,474 100%		
2000	76 5%	352 21%	43 3%	40 2%	32 2%	33 2%	23 1%	1,041 63%	21 1%	1,661 100%		

¹ Total of percentages may not equal 100 due to rounding.

Source: Nevada Supreme Court Clerk's Office.

The breakdown of appeals from District Court cases by Judicial District is provided in Table 3. As can be expected for the largest court, the Eighth Judicial District (Clark County) recorded the most appeals. Although their civil appeals decreased, the criminal appeals increased, resulting in an almost 5 percent increase in total appeals. The Second Judicial District (Washoe County) recorded the second highest number of appeals with criminal appeals increasing 44 percent.

Appellate Court Comparisons

The appellate courts' caseloads nationwide experienced an overall 6 percent increase in filings in 2003. Following the national trend, the Nevada Supreme Court experienced a 7 percent increase during the same period. Over the previous decade, however, Nevada has experienced a 47 percent increase in caseload—the third highest in the Nation.²

A comparison of caseload and related information for selected courts with some similarities³ to Nevada is provided in Table 4. Information about some states with intermediate appellate courts is included also. Nevada has more filings per justice (263) than most other appellate courts according to data published by the National Center for State Courts.^{2,4}

Compared with the two other states in Table 4 without intermediate appellate courts, Nevada has triple the filings per Justice.

These 2004 caseload numbers from the National Center for State Courts⁴ indicate that in states without an intermediate appellate court, the Nevada Supreme Court was ranked sixth in appeals per 100,000. The District of Columbia was first with 301 appeals per 100,000 persons and Nevada had 82. Many courts have discretion to accept appeals. If the discretionary appeals are removed from consideration and only those appeals granted are counted, Nevada is ranked fourth.

² Schauffler, R., Lafountain, R.C., Kauder, N.B., and Strickland, S., eds., 2005, *Examining the Work of State Courts, 2004, A National Perspective from the Court Statistics Project*: National Center for State Courts, p. 63-68.

³ The states were selected because of their population ranking (Maine, New Mexico, Utah), their regional location (Montana, Arizona, Oregon, New Mexico, Alaska, Utah) and/or they had five or seven Justices in their Supreme Court (all) without regard to how many Justices were in the Intermediate Appellate Court.

⁴ Strickland, S.M., comp., 2005, *State Court Caseload Statistics, 2004*: National Center for State Courts, 223 p.

Table 4. Characteristics of Nevada and Other Selected Appellate Courts With and Without Intermediate Appellate Courts. All data from National Center for State Courts for 2003.

	Nevada	Montana	Maine	Arizona	Oregon	New Mexico	Alaska	Utah
Population rank	36	45	41	18	28	37	48	35
	Intermediate Appellate Court							
Justices				22	10	10	3	7
En banc or panels				Panels	Both	Panels of 3	En Banc	Both
Cases filed & granted*				3,817	3,314	856	203	830
Cases per justice				174	331	86	68	119
	Supreme Court							
Justices	7	7	7	5	7	5	5	5
En banc or panels	Both	Both	En Banc	En Banc	En Banc	Panels of 3	En Banc	En Banc
Cases filed & granted*	1,841	560	515	1,205	280	594	289	594
Cases per justice	263	80	74	241	40	119	58	119

* This number includes all cases heard by the court. For states with discretionary petitions, only the petitions granted are included.

District Courts

The District Courts have general jurisdiction, meaning their caseload covers all case types and actions prescribed by the Nevada Constitution and Nevada Revised Statutes. Criminal cases include felony and gross misdemeanor cases, and civil cases involve disputes exceeding \$10,000.⁵ District Courts also have jurisdiction over all family and juvenile cases. Some Judicial Districts use Juvenile Masters who hear traffic and other juvenile cases.

The 17 counties of Nevada are divided into 9 Judicial Districts. The sparse populations of rural Nevada have necessitated that five of the Judicial Districts encompass multiple counties (see Figure 2). Judges in these rural Judicial Districts must travel on a regular basis within the multiple counties to hear cases. District Judges have statewide authority and may hear cases throughout the state although they are elected within the Judicial District they generally serve.

Figure 2. District Court Judges and the Judicial Districts of Nevada as of June 30, 2005.

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Carson City and Storey County
 Judge Michael Griffin
 Judge William Maddox

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Washoe County
 Judge Brent Adams
 Judge Janet Berry
 Judge Peter Breen
 Judge Frances Doherty
 Judge Steve Elliott
 Judge David Hardy
 Judge Steven Kosach
 Judge Robert Perry
 Judge Jerome Polaha
 Judge Deborah Schumacher
 Judge Connie Steinheimer
 Judge Chuck Weller

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Churchill and Lyon Counties
 Judge Archie Blake
 Judge Robert Estes
 Judge David Huff

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Elko County
 Judge Mike Memeo
 Judge Andrew Puccinelli

FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Esmeralda, Mineral, & Nye Counties
 Judge John Davis
 Judge Robert Lane

SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Humboldt, Lander, & Pershing Counties
 Judge John Iroz
 Judge Richard Wagner

SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

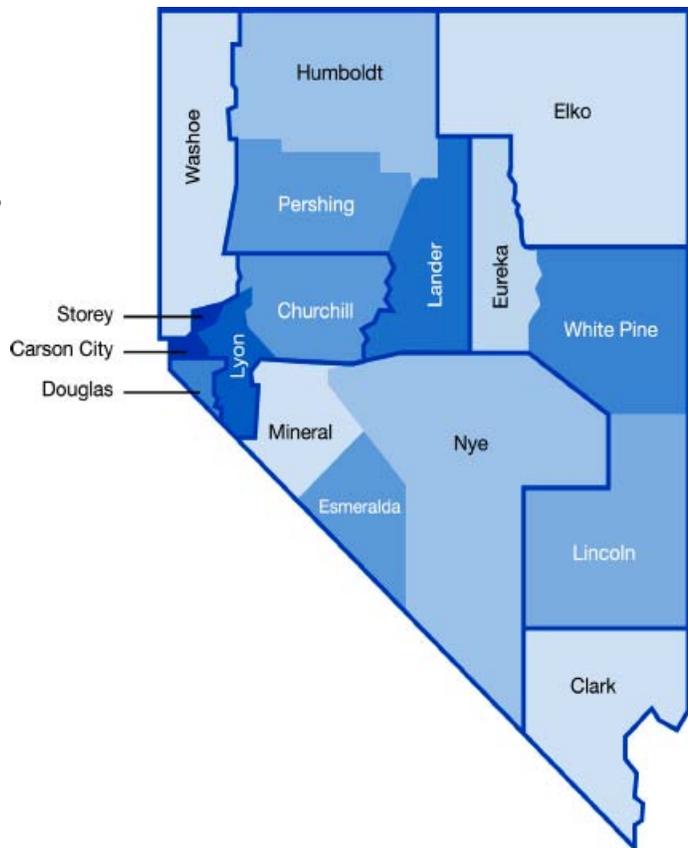
Eureka, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties
 Judge Steve Dobrescu
 Judge Dan Papez

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Clark County
 Judge Valerie Adair
 Judge Stewart Bell
 Judge Joseph Bonaventure
 Judge Lisa Brown
 Judge Michael Cherry
 Judge Kenneth Cory
 Judge Nicholas Del Vecchio
 Judge Mark Denton
 Judge Allan Earl
 Judge Jennifer Elliott
 Judge Lee Gates
 Judge Jackie Glass
 Judge Elizabeth Gonzalez
 Judge Gerald Hardcastle
 Judge Kathy Hardcastle
 Judge Douglas Herndon
 Judge Steven Jones
 Judge Michelle Leavitt
 Judge Sally Loehrer
 Judge John McGroarty
 Judge Stefany Ann Miley
 Judge Donald Mosley
 Judge Cheryl Moss
 Judge Sandra Pomrenze
 Judge Arthur Ritchie, Jr.
 Judge Nancy Saitta
 Judge Gloria Sanchez
 Judge Dianne Steel
 Judge Jennifer Togliatti
 Judge Valorie Vega
 Judge William Voy
 Judge David Wall
 Judge Jessie Walsh

NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Douglas County
 Judge David Gamble
 Judge Michael Gibbons



⁵ The 2003 Legislature passed Assembly Bill 100, which increased the dollar amount of civil disputes to be heard in Justice Courts from \$7,500 to \$10,000 effective January 2005.

Statistical Summary

The District Court case filing information for the last two fiscal years is summarized in Table 5. Summary disposition information is included in Table 6. This is the sixth year of data collection for the courts.

The distribution of case types within the District Courts is shown in Figure 3. Family cases make up the largest percentage of the court caseload at 45 percent, civil and juvenile (non-traffic) cases are similar at 23 and 21 percent, and criminal is the smallest case type at 11 percent.

Statewide, the District Court criminal (non-traffic) caseload for fiscal year 2005 increased 6 percent from the previous year (see Table 5). Clark County District Court increased the most, by more than 700 cases (almost 9 percent); however, the District Courts

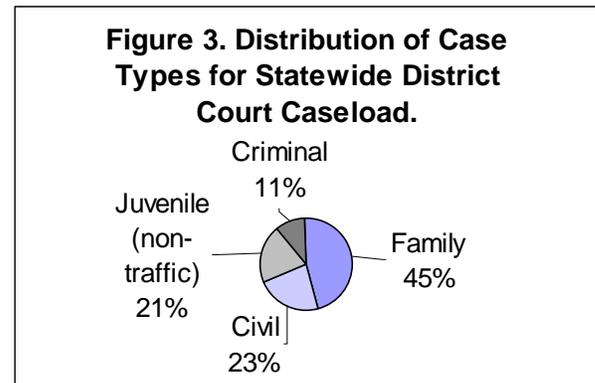


Table 5. Summary of District Court Cases Filed, Fiscal Years 2004-05.

Court	Criminal Cases Filed		Civil Cases Filed		Family Cases Filed		Juvenile Nontraffic Cases Filed		Total Nontraffic Cases Filed		Juvenile Traffic Violations	
	FY 2005	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2004
First Judicial District												
Carson City District Court	274	302	672	683	677	792	989	1,153	2,612	2,930	1,125	1,293
Storey County District Court	12	5	30	21	14	33	15	28	71	87	20	23
Second Judicial District												
Washoe County District Court	3,025	3,059	4,028	4,087	10,957	10,146	4,779	4,772	22,789	22,064	NR	NR
Third Judicial District												
Churchill County District Court	192	169	132	137	456	542	1,274	1,247	2,054	2,095	407	341
Lyon County District Court	200	165	332	285	526	464	900	991	1,958	1,905	1,653	1,485
Fourth Judicial District												
Elko County District Court	247	251	547	496	953	857	862	358	2,609	1,962	767	455
Fifth Judicial District												
Esmeralda County District Court	10	15	20	8	6	5	3	2	39	30	10	22
Mineral County District Court	68	<i>4</i>	39	<i>3</i>	66	<i>40</i>	75	<i>17</i>	248	<i>64</i>	7	<i>5</i>
Nye County District Court	262	284	415	407	1,162	928	867	899	2,706	2,518	183	281
Sixth Judicial District												
Humboldt County District Court	170	136	120	119	311	237	106	179	707	671	NR	NR
Lander County District Court	23	11	40	26	53	55	102	106	218	198	124	137
Pershing County District Court	58	64	76	57	55	85	53	130	242	336	0	11
Seventh Judicial District												
Eureka County District Court	18	13	14	16	7	2	28	24	67	55	<i>(a)</i>	<i>(a)</i>
Lincoln County District Court	26	43	29	28	28	35	36	82	119	188	<i>(a)</i>	<i>(a)</i>
White Pine County District Court	126	90	131	91	152	112	122	110	531	403	<i>(a)</i>	<i>(a)</i>
Eighth Judicial District												
Clark County District Court	9,198	8,454	22,402	22,149	41,881	39,771	16,491	16,504	89,972	86,878	2,652	2,465
Ninth Judicial District												
Douglas County District Court	147	138	420	400	807	857	260	369	1,634	1,764	469	458
Total	14,056	13,203	29,447	29,013	58,111	54,961	26,962	26,971	128,576	124,148	7,417	6,976

NR Not reported.

Italic indicates numbers that are incomplete or estimated.

^a Juvenile traffic violations handled by Justice Courts.

^r Revised from previous publication.

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

Table 6. Summary of District Court Cases Disposed, Fiscal Years 2004-05.

Court	Criminal Cases Disposed		Civil Cases Disposed		Family Cases Disposed		Juvenile Nontraffic Cases Disposed		Total Nontraffic Cases Disposed		Juvenile Traffic Violations	
	FY 2005	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2004
First Judicial District												
Carson City District Court	253	272	348	432	502	717	300	302	1,403	1,723	1,131	1,320
Storey County District Court	8	7	9	0	12	16	8	12	37	35	20	23
Second Judicial District												
Washoe County District Court	2,864	2,783	2,831	3,088	9,565	9,211	4,080	3,167	19,340	18,249	NR	NR
Third Judicial District												
Churchill County District Court	126	131	93	90	359	494	527	392	1,105	1,107	456	313
Lyon County District Court	151	145	132	73	175	162	495	581	953	961	1,422	1,314
Fourth Judicial District												
Elko County District Court	222	261	195	174	878	691	462	129	1,757	1,255	732	428
Fifth Judicial District												
Esmeralda County District Court	10	24	7	20	12	5	1	1	30	50	9	17
Mineral County District Court	59	12 ^r	31	9 ^r	159	42 ^r	44	10	293	73 ^r	0	7
Nye County District Court	228	207	254	191	956	817	547	537	1,985	1,752	307	343
Sixth Judicial District												
Humboldt County District Court	82	110	47	41	212	184	19	42	360	377	NR	NR
Lander County District Court	21	22	27	17	61	55	72	115	181	209	124	136
Pershing County District Court	57	57	28	31	112	138	20	71	217	310	0	11
Seventh Judicial District												
Eureka County District Court	11	11	1	1	1	2	2	2	15	16	(a)	(a)
Lincoln County District Court	38	33	19	23	42	28	46	66	145	150	(a)	(a)
White Pine County District Court	77	65 ^r	12	26	130	158	262	61	481	310 ^r	(a)	(a)
Eighth Judicial District												
Clark County District Court	11,768	10,848	20,623	22,676	38,752	34,760	1,980	8,506	73,123	76,790	NR	NR
Ninth Judicial District												
Douglas County District Court	129	114	408	281	773	774	192	231	1,502	1,400	429	443
Total	16,104	15,102^r	25,065	27,173^r	52,701	48,254^r	9,057	14,225	102,927	104,754^r	4,630	4,349

NR Not reported.

Italic indicates numbers that are incomplete or estimated.

^a Juvenile traffic violations handled and reported by Justice Courts.

^r Revised from previous publication.

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

in the less populated counties of Lander and Storey had the largest percentage increases, 109 percent (from 11 to 23 cases) and 140 percent (from 5 to 12 cases), respectively.

The District Court civil caseload increased about 1 percent statewide. After the limit was increased to \$10,000 in January, civil case filings in District Courts decreased by about 900 for the months of January-June 2005, compared to the same time the previous year. In general, the counties with larger populations had caseloads that were flat. Larger percentage increases in caseload in the counties with smaller populations included Esmeralda County District Court with 150 percent (from 8 to 20 cases) and Lander County District Court with nearly 54 percent (from 26 to 40 cases).

Family-related cases are handled only at the District Court level. Statewide, the total caseload for the

fiscal year increased nearly 6 percent over last year. Several District Courts experienced double-digit numerical increases over their previous year filings. These significant increases occurred in both rural and urban courts.

Juvenile case filings reported by District Courts for fiscal year 2005 had a nine case decrease. The large increase in Elko County (about 141 percent) was more owing to improved reporting by the court staff than an increase in services provided. Because methods of processing the juvenile traffic cases vary from county to county, they are listed separately in the respective District or Justice Court tables depending on where the cases are processed.

Comparing the 2003 caseloads of general jurisdiction courts of Nevada to those of the surrounding seven western states highlights some interesting points (see Table 7). Nevada has fewer judges per

Table 7. Comparison of Nevada District Courts with Other Western States General Jurisdiction Courts. Data from National Center for State Courts, 2003.

State	General Jurisdiction Court	Judges per 100,000 population	Filings per judge	Filings per 100,000 population
Nevada	District	2.7	1,909	5,154
Alaska	Superior	5.2	547	2,844
Arizona	Superior	2.9	1,587	4,602
California	Superior	4.2	2,050	8,610
Hawaii	Circuit	3.6	1,044	3,758
Idaho	District	2.9	505	1,465
Oregon	Circuit	4.8	1,939	9,307
Washington	Superior	2.9	1,428	4,141

100,000 in population (2.7) than any other western state and ranks third in the categories of nontraffic filings per judge and filings per 100,000 population among those states.

Disposition information for District Courts is provided in Table 6. This is the fifth year for the collecting and reporting of disposition information, which is a difficult process for the courts. Most courts count data manually, some courts had their case management systems modified, and some courts were unable to provide accurate and complete information. In addition, some systems have become obsolete. For example, the Clark County system will be updated soon; however, it is a process that can take several years to complete. In Clark County, juvenile

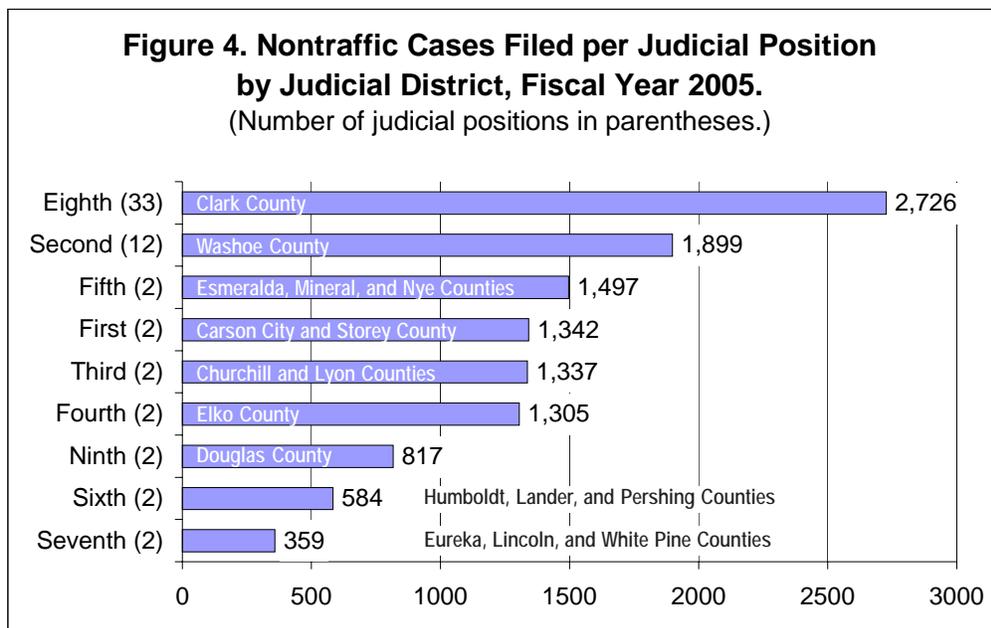
case dispositions were not recorded during most of fiscal year 2005. This situation was not resolved until September 2005. The omission resulted in large declines in juvenile case dispositions for fiscal year 2005, countered by large increases early in fiscal year 2006. System limitations prohibited retrieval of corrected 2005 data.

Statewide, increases in criminal and family case dispositions (about 7 and 9 percent, respectively) were similar to the decreases in the civil case dispositions (almost 8 percent). The reasons behind these declines are not known at this time.

Dividing the number of dispositions by the number of filings and multiplying by 100 provides a clearance rate for the court. This measure is a single number that can be compared within the courts for any and all case types. Courts should aspire to dispose of at least as many cases as have been filed, re-opened, or reactivated in a period according to the National Center for State Courts in their recently published *CourTools*.

Cases Per Judicial Position

The number of nontraffic cases filed per judicial position for all District Courts in Nevada for fiscal year 2005 is shown in Figure 4. In the Judicial Districts that contain more than one county (First, Third, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh), the cases from those counties are summed and divided by the number of Judges in the district.



Statewide average of cases filed per judicial position for District Courts is 2,143.
Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

To make comparisons more consistent across court types, juvenile traffic charges were not included in the totals used for calculating the cases filed per judicial positions because the majority of traffic charges in the lower courts are resolved without judicial action as they are paid through the mail or in person. At the District Court level, Juvenile Masters or District Court Judges handle juvenile traffic cases and the cases may be counted at the District or Justice Court level depending on the processes within the Judicial District.

The statewide average of nontraffic cases filed per judicial position for District Courts is 2,143 an increase of 75 cases per Judge over last fiscal year (2,068). Since data collection began, this statewide average has increased every year but one — fiscal year 2001. In that year, five new judges were added statewide, contributing to the decrease in this average.

As has been the case for the last few years, the Eighth Judicial District (Clark County) has the largest number of nontraffic cases per judicial position at 2,726, an increase from last year (2,633). The Second Judicial District (Washoe County) was next with 1,899 cases per judicial position, an increase over the previous fiscal year (1,839). The Fifth Judicial District (Esmeralda, Mineral, and Nye Counties) follows with 1,497 cases per judicial position, an increase over last fiscal year (1,259).

In multi-county Judicial Districts, Judges are required to travel hundreds of miles each month among the counties within their districts to hear cases. A recent study⁶ indicates these judges average 1 day a week on the road, which reduces their availability to hear cases. District Court Judges with smaller caseloads assist the busier District Courts through judicial assignments made by the Supreme Court.

Judicial Assistance

The courts use many individuals to provide judicial assistance in processing of cases. The AOC and the courts have continued quantifying the judicial assistance provided to the courts by quasi-judicial positions, Senior Justices and Judges, and occasional visits from other District Judges to help dispose cases. Such assistance is essential to combat increased caseloads.

⁶ Sweet, R.L., and Dobbins, R., 2005, *Miles Driven by Rural District Court Judges in Nevada, Fiscal Years 2000-04*: Supreme Court of Nevada, Administrative Office of the Courts, Planning & Analysis Division Research Review, 4 p.

Quasi-Judicial Assistance

Quasi-judicial positions have limited authority and are accountable to an elected judge; therefore, they are not considered equivalent to a full judicial position. In District Courts, most of the quasi-judicial officers are commissioners, referees, and masters for alternative dispute resolution programs for civil, family, and juvenile cases. The work of these quasi-judicial officials must be reviewed and approved by elected judges. These positions are not included in the filings per judicial position chart.

Individuals in these positions, who help with the adjudication process and are appointed by the court, were identified and their judicial time quantified. After quantifying the assistance provided, these positions cannot be compared to a full-time judicial position. However, the hours of assistance provided during the year as a full-time equivalent is still the best measure and so courts are asked to provide these estimates; a summary is given in Table 8.

Additionally, in a few Judicial Districts, such as the Fifth and Seventh Judicial Districts, Justices of the Peace serve as the Juvenile Masters for juvenile traffic cases.

Table 8. Estimated Full-time Equivalent Quasi-Judicial Assistance Provided to Judicial Districts, Fiscal Year 2005.

District & County	Quasi-Judicial Positions as FTE
First Judicial District	
Carson City, Storey	1.0
Second Judicial District	
Washoe	7.75
Third Judicial District	
Churchill, Lyon	0.91
Fourth Judicial District	
Elko	1.0
Fifth Judicial District	
Esmeralda, Mineral, Nye	1.6
Sixth Judicial District	
Humboldt, Lander, Pershing	0.61
Seventh Judicial District	
Eureka, Lincoln, White Pine	0.25
Eighth Judicial District	
Clark	11.25
Ninth Judicial District	
Douglas	0.5

Table 9. Senior Justices and Judges Assignments for Fiscal Year 2005.

Requesting Judicial District	Senior Judge Assignments ^a	Total Days of Assignments Each Judicial District ^a	Approximate Full-Time Equivalent	Number of Senior Judges Who Served ^a
First	3	24.2	0.12	3
Second	8	30.2	0.14	7
Third	2	12.5	0.06	2
Fourth	3	6	0.03	3
Fifth	0	0	0	0
Sixth	3	4.5	0.02	1
Seventh	7	20.5	0.10	4
Eighth	41	420	2.00	12
Ninth	8	21.1	0.10	2
TOTAL	75	539	2.57	34

^a Some orders may have been signed in previous years and the Senior Justice or Judge is still hearing motions in the case resulting in zero assignments for the fiscal year but days of assignments.

Senior Justices and Judges Program

Alternative methods used to provide intermittent judicial assistance to courts include the Senior Justices and Judges Program, and temporary assignment of District Court Judges outside their jurisdiction. Supreme Court Rule 10 governs the Senior Justices and Judges Program. In brief, any former Supreme Court Justice or District Court Judge who qualifies for retirement and who was not removed or retired for cause or defeated for retention in an election may apply to become a Senior Justice or Judge. The Senior Justices and Judges are eligible for temporary assignment by Supreme Court order to any state trial court at or below the level of their previous judicial service.

Information on Senior Justice and Judge assignments is provided in Table 9. Each judicial assistance order is counted as one assignment. Some judicial assistance orders may have been signed in previous fiscal years and the Senior Justice or Judge is still hearing motions in the case(s). Also, judicial assistance orders may provide for multiple days or cases, depending on the assistance requested. When a judicial vacancy occurs or a Judge is absent due to catastrophic illness, Senior Justices or Judges are assigned for an extended period of time to maintain the court's case flow and calendar. Without this assistance, hearings would have to be vacated or re-signed creating confusion and delays for litigants.

Occasionally, Senior Justices or Judges are requested to replace a disqualified Judge. That assignment would be for a specific case only.

During fiscal year 2005, the judiciary had 13 Senior Justices or Judges actively serving the District Courts. The combined efforts of these Judges provided assistance equivalent to more than two and one-half full-time Judges for the State.

Assistance by District Court Judges

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may assign District Court Judges to assist in other Judicial Districts as visiting Judges according to Article 6, Section 19 of the Nevada Constitution.

Information on District Court Judge assistance is provided in Table 10. The assistance requested

by each Judicial District is detailed, as well as the assistance provided by visiting District Judges. For example, in the Third Judicial District, they requested no assistance during the year but were able to provide assistance on seven occasions. As with the Senior Justices and Judges Program, each judicial assistance order is counted as one assignment. The visiting District Judges are managed in a similar manner as well.

During fiscal year 2005, the District Courts had 14 Judges who filled requests for assistance.

Table 10. District Court Judge Assistance for Fiscal Year 2005.

Judicial District	Assistance Requested by District	Assistance Provided by District (number of orders)
First	7	2
Second	4	1
Third	0	7
Fourth	12	8
Fifth	1	3
Sixth	2	3
Seventh	9	11
Eighth	0	0
Ninth	6	6

Alternative Dispute Resolution Programs

The Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Programs began on July 1, 1992, after passage of Senate Bill 366 by the 1991 Legislature. The legislation required the Second and Eighth Judicial Districts (Washoe and Clark Counties) to implement ADR Programs. The First and Ninth Judicial Districts (Carson City, Storey County, and Douglas County) subsequently adopted voluntary programs. Arbitration Commissioners administer the programs in each Judicial District.

Initially, the ADR Programs focused on certain civil cases with probable award value of less than \$25,000. A subsequent statutory revision increased the amount to \$40,000; and during the 2005 Legislative session, Assembly Bill 468 was passed, increasing the maximum amount to \$50,000 per plaintiff for mandatory programs. The Ninth Judicial District, in the program voluntarily, opted to keep the initial amount.

Caseload and Settlement Rate

Fewer cases entered the arbitration program for fiscal year 2005 in three of the four District Courts. The respective long-term annual average program

caseloads are the sum of annual caseloads for the last 10 years, divided by 10 for all but the First Judicial District Court, which only has 8 years of data. The caseload and settlement rates for the fiscal year and the long-term annual average for each participating District Court program are provided in Table 11.

The settlement rate can vary greatly from one year to another for each District Court and can be affected by the increase or decrease in the number of arbitrators, training sessions, and support staff. The settlement rate is the number of cases settled or dismissed after entering the arbitration program compared with those cases requesting trials de novo (actual bench or jury trials).

The First and Second Judicial District Courts had settlement rates this fiscal year that were identical to their long-term program averages. Both the Eighth and Ninth Judicial District Courts had settlement rates this fiscal year that were higher than their long-term program averages.

One specific type of alternative dispute resolution is the Short Trial Program. A Short Trial follows modified rules including only four jurors, with each side (plaintiffs and defendants) limited to 3 hours for

Table 11. Alternative Dispute Resolution Caseload and Settlement Rates, Fiscal Year 2005.

	First Judicial District Court		Second Judicial District Court		Eighth Judicial District Court**		Ninth Judicial District Court	
	Fiscal Year 2005	Long-Term Average (8 years)	Fiscal Year 2005	Long-Term Average (10 years)	Fiscal Year 2005	Long-Term Average (10 years)	Fiscal Year 2005	Long-Term Average (10 years)
Civil Caseload	702		4,028		22,402		420	
Cases Entered *	246	247	466	623	3,651	3,936	166	134
Cases Removed	40	56	90	44	239	307	37	26
Cases Settled or Dismissed	157	150	383	456	631	1,602	40	42
Settlement Rate	93%	93%	85%	85%	70%	61%	91%	89%
Trials De Novo requested	12	12	68	80	269	1,010	4	5
Trials De Novo request rate	7%	8%	15%	15%	30%	39%	9%	11%

* First, Second, and Eighth Judicial District Courts have a \$40,000 maximum for cases to be in the program; Ninth Judicial District has a \$25,000 maximum. Cases that qualify are automatically included in the program and parties have to request to be removed. The 2005 Legislature passed Assembly Bill 468 revising the maximum to \$50,000.

** The case management system used by the Eighth Judicial District Court is not designed to track data within these statistical categories. As noted previously, Clark County is in the process of obtaining a new case management system that should better provide this information. Manual counting of this information is not cost effective. The actual settlement rate for the Eighth Judicial District Court may be slightly higher or lower.

their presentation. Only three of the four jurors need to agree on the verdict.

The Second Judicial District Court began their Short Trial Program during fiscal year 2005. They had one case complete the short trial and have several others scheduled for trial.

In the Eighth Judicial District Court for fiscal year 2005, 53 cases stipulated to the Short Trial Program. Of those, 10 were dismissed or settled, 7 went to short trial, and the remainder are scheduled for trial.

Since the Short Trial Program began in the Eighth Judicial District Court in fiscal year 2001, more than 300 cases have stipulated to the program, half have been dismissed or settled and 116 completed the short trial. The remainder are scheduled for trial.

The Second, Eighth, and Ninth Judicial District Courts collect fees (\$5 per case filing⁷) to fund the programs. All three have expenses that exceed the amount collected in filing fees. The First Judicial District does not collect fees. The District Courts use these fees for the administration of the arbitration program, including staff and technology expenses.

All four District Courts continue to find the programs to be successful alternatives to traditional trials. The programs are well-received by members of the bar and public, and by litigants because cases in the programs are processed expeditiously at reduced expense.

⁷ Effective October 1, 2005, the Boards of County Commissioners may reset, by ordinance, the per-case filing fee to a maximum of \$15 as provided by the passage of Senate Bill 177 during the 2005 Legislature.

Justice Courts

The Justice Courts are limited jurisdiction courts, meaning their caseload is restricted to particular types of cases or actions as prescribed by the Nevada Revised Statutes. Justice Courts determine whether felony and gross misdemeanor cases have enough evidence to be bound over to District Court for trial. They hear misdemeanor nontraffic cases as well as general civil cases (amounts up to \$10,000⁸), small claims (up to \$5,000), summary eviction cases, and requests for temporary protective orders (domestic violence,⁹ stalking and harassment, or harassment in the workplace). They also hear traffic and, in some communities, parking cases, which are counted by charge.

The Justices of the Peace are elected within the townships they serve (see Figure 5). They may hear cases in other townships within their county.

Statistical Summary

The Justice Court case filing information for the last two fiscal years is summarized in Table 12. Disposition summary information is included in Table 13. With 6 years of data, some trends may begin to materialize, however, increases in reported caseloads from the early years of data collection may be affected as much by improved reporting as by true, increased caseloads.

Statewide, the number of Justice Court nontraffic (criminal and civil) cases filed during fiscal year 2005 increased 5 percent from fiscal year 2004. Statewide traffic and parking violations increased more than 3 percent.

In criminal case filings, some rural Justice Courts experienced large increases (Austin, Eureka, and Moapa Justice Courts) or decreases (Smith Valley, Wadsworth, and Searchlight Justice Courts). Similarly, for traffic violations, some rural Justice Courts saw large increases (Mesquite, Searchlight, and Tahoe Justice Courts) or decreases (Eureka and Lake [Lovelock] Justice Courts).

Much of this change can be attributed to the increase or decrease of state highway patrol or local law enforcement staffing. For example, due to eco-

nomie hardships, vacant law enforcement positions were not replaced.

As can be expected for the largest Justice Court, the Las Vegas Justice Court had the highest criminal and traffic caseloads with 61 and 54 percent (respectively) of the statewide totals at this jurisdictional level. Reno Justice Court was next with more than 8 percent of the criminal and almost 10 percent of the traffic caseload.

Civil filings for fiscal year 2005 increased 6 percent statewide from last year. One of the principal causes of this increase was the legislative change raising the monetary limit for general civil cases from \$7,500 to \$10,000 on January 1, 2005. Following this increase, the Justice Courts general civil filings increased more than 3,600 cases from January to June 2005 over the same time the previous year. Another factor noted by several courts is that more public agencies and private businesses are seeking judicial action to collect debts.

Las Vegas Justice Court had the highest percentage of civil cases statewide (60 percent), Reno Justice Court continued to have a disproportionately high percentage of civil cases (more than 16 percent), relative to its population (about 10 percent of the State).

The Verdi Justice Court was closed near the end of fiscal year 2005 leaving a total of 47 Justice Courts in Nevada to begin the next fiscal year.

Disposition information for Justice Courts is provided in Table 13. As previously noted, courts are updating and changing systems and processes to better provide this statistical information.

All disposition categories increased over last year. Civil case dispositions increased the most at 14 percent; criminal and traffic dispositions increased about 3 and 2 percent, respectively.

Courts should aspire to dispose of at least as many cases as have been filed, reopened, or reactivated in a period according to the National Center for State Courts in their recently published *CourTools*. Dividing the number of cases disposed by the number of cases filed (and reopened or reactivated) and multiplying by 100 provides a clearance rate for the court. This measure can then be compared within or across courts for any case type.

⁸ The 2003 Legislature passed Assembly Bill 100, which increased the amount of civil disputes to be heard in Justice Courts from \$7,500 to \$10,000 effective January 2005.

⁹ In some urban areas, the Justice Court may not issue domestic violence protection orders because they are heard at the Family Division of District Court.

Figure 5. Justices of the Peace by County and Judicial Townships in Nevada as of June 30, 2005
(except where otherwise noted).

LANDER COUNTY

- Argenta Township**
Judge Max Bunch
- Austin Township**
Judge Jim Andersen

WASHOE COUNTY

- Incline Village Township**
Judge James Mancuso
- Reno Township**
Judge Harold Albright
Judge Ed Dannan
Judge Barbara Finley
Judge Fidel Salcedo
Judge Jack Schroeder
- Sparks Township**
Judge Susan Deriso
Judge Kevin Higgins
- Verdi Township**
Judge Margie Clark
(retired & court closed
May 31, 2005)
- Wadsworth Township**
Judge Terry Graham

STOREY COUNTY

- Virginia City Township**
Judge Annette Daniels

CARSON CITY

- Carson City Township**
Judge John Tatro
Judge Robey Willis

DOUGLAS COUNTY

- East Fork Township**
Judge James EnEarl
- Tahoe Township**
Judge Richard Glasson

CHURCHILL COUNTY

- New River Township**
Judge Daniel Ward

LYON COUNTY

- Canal Township**
Judge Robert Bennett
- Dayton Township**
Judge William Rogers
- Mason Valley Township**
Judge Dennis Milligan
- Smith Valley Township**
Judge Frances Vidal

HUMBOLDT COUNTY

- McDermitt Township**
Judge Howard Huttman
- Paradise Valley Township**
Judge Elizabeth Chabot
- Union Township**
Judge Gene Wambolt

PERSHING COUNTY

- Lake Township**
Judge Carol Nelsen

ELKO COUNTY

- Carlin Township**
Judge Barbara Nethery
- East Line Township**
Judge Laura Grant
- Elko Township**
Judge Mary Leddy
- Jackpot Township**
Judge Phyllis Black
- Wells Township**
Judge Patricia Calton

EUREKA COUNTY

- Beowawe Township**
Judge Susan Fye
- Eureka Township**
Judge John Schwebble

WHITE PINE COUNTY

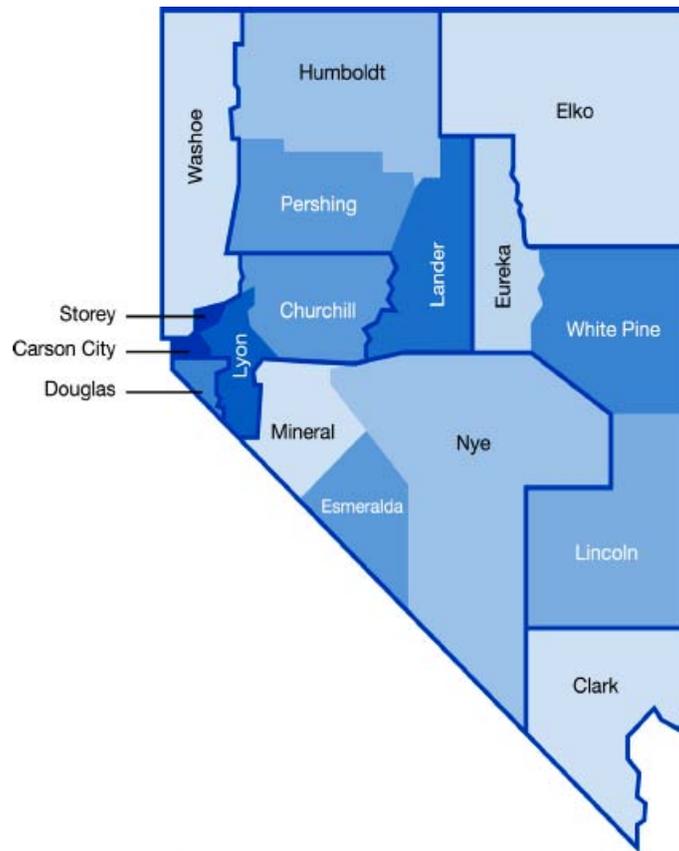
- Ely (No. 1) Township**
Judge Ronald Niman
- Lund (No. 2) Township**
Judge Russel Peacock
- Baker (No. 3) Township**
Judge Valeria Taylor

LINCOLN COUNTY

- Meadow Valley Township**
Judge Sarah Getker
- Pahrnagat Valley Township**
Judge Nola Holton

CLARK COUNTY

- Boulder Township**
Judge Victor Miller
- Bunkerville Township**
Judge Cecil Leavitt
- Goodsprings Township**
Judge Dawn Haviland
- Henderson Township**
Judge Rodney Burr
Judge Stephen George
- Las Vegas Township**
Judge Anthony Abbatangelo
Judge Karen Bennett-Haron
Judge James Bixler
Judge Joe Bonaventure
Judge William Jansen
Judge Deborah Lippis
Judge Nancy Oesterle
Judge Douglas Smith
Judge Ann Zimmerman
- Laughlin Township**
Judge Billy Moma
- Mesquite Township**
Judge Ron Dodd
- Moapa Township**
Judge Ruth Kolhoss
- Moapa Valley Township**
Judge Lanny Waite
- North Las Vegas Township**
Judge Stephen Dahl
Judge Natalie Tyrrell
- Searchlight Township**
Judge Wendell Turner



MINERAL COUNTY

- Hawthorne Township**
Judge Victor Trujillo

ESMERALDA COUNTY

- Esmeralda Township**
Judge Juanita Colvin

NYE COUNTY

- Beatty Township**
Judge Bill Sullivan
- Pahrump Township**
Judge Christina Brisebill
- Tonopah Township**
Judge Joe Maslach

Table 12. Summary of Justice Court Cases Filed, Fiscal Years 2004-05

	Criminal Cases Filed		Civil Cases Filed		Total Non-Traffic Caseload		Traffic & Parking Violations	
	FY05	FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05	FY04
First Judicial District								
Carson City								
Carson City Justice Court	2,028	2,620	4,861	4,928	6,889	7,548	18,190	18,188
Storey County								
Virginia City Justice Court	120	114	86	85	206	199	720	1,133
Second Judicial District								
Washoe County								
Incline Village Justice Court	590	535	248	292	838	827	2,145	1,952
Reno Justice Court	6,551	5,900	19,971	20,561	26,522	26,461	40,552	40,589
Sparks Justice Court	2,641	2,675	5,188	4,815	7,829	7,490	8,156	8,294
Verdi Justice Court	16	44	16	24	32	68	1,019	1,825
Wadsworth Justice Court	80	133	28	38	108	171	3,963	3,500
Third Judicial District								
Churchill County								
New River Justice Court	631	706	1,380	1,203	2,011	1,909	6,093	5,785
Lyon County								
Canal Justice Court	224	186	740	645	964	831	1,764	1,897
Dayton Justice Court	972	895	677	698	1,649	1,593	3,901	4,144
Mason Valley Justice Court	210	247	430	493	640	740	2,091	2,025
Smith Valley Justice Court	11	22	16	17	27	39	157	198
Fourth Judicial District								
Elko County								
Carlin Justice Court	305	316	135	166	440	482	425	497
East Line Justice Court	220	216	153	212	373	428	751	1,171
Elko Justice Court	1,165	1,212	1,712	1,597	2,877	2,809	7,579	8,336
Jackpot Justice Court	193	189	64	69	257	258	1,249	1,518
Wells Justice Court	95	87	57	76	152	163	3,784	2,725
Fifth Judicial District								
Esmeralda County								
Esmeralda Justice Court	30	45	22	31	52	76	2,595	3,438
Mineral County								
Hawthorne Justice Court	725	625	238	191	963	816	4,217	5,066
Nye County								
Beatty Justice Court	170	159	45	37	215	196	2,172	3,081
Pahrump Justice Court	973	1,128	1,193	893	2,166	2,021	4,614	5,381
Tonopah Justice Court	220	187	134	98	354	285	2,670	3,292
Sixth Judicial District								
Humboldt County								
McDermitt Justice Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paradise Valley Justice Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Union Justice Court	2,885	2,906	856	851	3,741	3,757	4,200	5,506
Lander County								
Argenta Justice Court	215	204	410	450	625	654	3,758	3,097
Austin Justice Court	182	48	12	10	194	58	1,532	1,189
Pershing County								
Lake Justice Court	248	191	252	214	500	405	988	1,942
Seventh Judicial District								
Eureka County								
Beowawe Justice Court	33	19	2	8	35	27	1,043	870
Eureka Justice Court	77	33	24	15	101	48	717	1,534
Lincoln County								
Meadow Valley Justice Court	56	73	16	22	72	95	893	1,119
Pahranagat Valley Justice Court	109	122	11	8	120	130	3,636	3,097
White Pine County								
Baker (No. 3) Justice Court	0	0	1	0	1	0	8	22
Ely (No. 1) Justice Court	193	179	425	404	618	583	3,015	3,478
Lund (No. 2) Justice Court	1	0	9	1	10	1	166	242
Eighth Judicial District								
Clark County								
Boulder Justice Court	120	106	285	269	405	375	682	540
Bunkerville Justice Court	13	15	9	13	22	28	1,295	970
Goodsprings Justice Court	172	188	59	49	231	237	8,203	8,762
Henderson Justice Court	2,233	2,062	4,193	3,818	6,426	5,880	6,606	6,142
Las Vegas Justice Court	49,633	47,030	74,633	68,724	124,266	115,754	222,688	205,582
Laughlin Justice Court	1,428	1,400	376	403	1,804	1,803	7,746	7,392
Mesquite Justice Court	148	108	246	200	394	308	34	12
Moapa Justice Court	33	17	11	10	44	27	3,994	4,894
Moapa Valley Justice Court	127	123	55	54	182	177	914	549
North Las Vegas Justice Court	3,260	3,062	3,285	2,805	6,545	5,867	910	1,003
Searchlight Justice Court	74	136	11	9	85	145	4,766	2,722
Ninth Judicial District								
Douglas County								
East Fork Justice Court	992	941	955	831	1,947	1,772	7,617	8,394
Tahoe Justice Court	594	536	186	211	780	747	5,935	2,860
Total	80,996	77,748	123,716	116,551	204,712	194,299	410,153	395,978

Italic indicates numbers that are incomplete or estimated.

† Data totals revised from initial publication.

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

Table 13. Summary of Justice Court Cases Disposed, Fiscal Years 2004-05.

	Criminal Cases Disposed		Civil Cases Disposed		Total Nontraffic Cases Disposed		Traffic & Parking Violations Disposed	
	FY05	FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05	FY04
First Judicial District								
Carson City								
Carson City Justice Court	2,176	1,358	2,989	1,777	5,165	3,135	16,931	16,081
Storey County								
Virginia City Justice Court	118	120	110	100	228	220	421	610
Second Judicial District								
Washoe County								
Incline Village Justice Court	593	568	229	262 ^r	822	830 ^r	2,004	1,902
Reno Justice Court	6,042	6,394	10,996	9,575	17,038	15,969	26,158	23,299
Sparks Justice Court	2,405	2,480	2,998	2,791	5,403	5,271	6,530	6,660
Verdi Justice Court	6	21	11	22	17	43	970	1,884
Wadsworth Justice Court	60	124	12	24	72	148	3,070	2,360
Third Judicial District								
Churchill County								
New River Justice Court	967	1,022	1,112	902	2,079	1,924	5,510	5,261
Lyon County								
Canal Justice Court	198	213	489	322 ^r	687	535 ^r	1,777	1,848
Dayton Justice Court	1,154	1,017	723	337 ^r	1,877	1,354 ^r	3,616	4,035
Mason Valley Justice Court	358	373	374	330	732	703	1,937	2,007
Smith Valley Justice Court	14	11	7	15	21	26	162	173
Fourth Judicial District								
Elko County								
Carlin Justice Court	290	239	57	73	347	312	291	369
East Line Justice Court	189	82	96	91 ^r	285	173 ^r	660	959
Elko Justice Court	1,114	1,043	1,403	962	2,517	2,005	4,958	6,142
Jackpot Justice Court	32	33	51	37	83	70	1,406	1,546
Wells Justice Court	93	61	45	80	138	141	3,118	2,782
Fifth Judicial District								
Esmeralda County								
Esmeralda Justice Court	14	25	21	24	35	49	2,605	3,076
Mineral County								
Hawthorne Justice Court	104	97 ^r	NR	NR	—	—	3,435	4,124 ^r
Nye County								
Beatty Justice Court	182	172	46	32	228	204	2,430	3,145
Pahrump Justice Court	876	834	1,055	723	1,931	1,557	4,594	4,229
Tonopah Justice Court	183	147	119	87	302	287	2,261	2,035
Sixth Judicial District								
Humboldt County								
McDermitt Justice Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paradise Valley Justice Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Union Justice Court	2,237	2,492	555	692	2,792	3,184	3,886	4,572
Lander County								
Argenta Justice Court	180	202	294	388	474	590	3,234	3,063
Austin Justice Court	13	25	7	12	20	37	1,257	941
Pershing County								
Lake Justice Court	214	193	105	114	319	307	764	1,950
Seventh Judicial District								
Eureka County								
Beowawe Justice Court	20	22	3	9	23	31	930	817
Eureka Justice Court	60	34	11	2	71	36	664	599
Lincoln County								
Meadow Valley Justice Court	49	63	7	14	56	77	646	796
Pahrnanagat Valley Justice Court	80	96	10	9	90	105	3,204	2,666
White Pine County								
Baker (No. 3) Justice Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	22
Ely (No. 1) Justice Court	175	150	373	287	548	437	2,470	2,885
Lund (No. 2) Justice Court	0	0	2	2	2	2	155	209
Eighth Judicial District								
Clark County								
Boulder Justice Court	111	99	259	249	370	348	597	487
Bunkerville Justice Court	12	15	7	13	19	28	1,278	856
Goodsprings Justice Court	155	218	33	32	188	250	6,854	7,684
Henderson Justice Court	605	632	3,093	2,798	3,698	3,430	5,872	6,329
Las Vegas Justice Court	NR	NR	57,971	52,480	—	—	172,066	166,266
Laughlin Justice Court	1,200	1,821	255	252	1,455	2,073	4,652	5,516
Mesquite Justice Court	107	105	178	178	285	283	1	3
Moapa Justice Court	20	10	5	1	25	11	3,746	4,331
Moapa Valley Justice Court	146	170	21	27	167	197	813	465
North Las Vegas Justice Court	981	NR	2,190	1,033	—	—	901	NR
Searchlight Justice Court	78	151	7	9	85	160	4,858	2,742
Ninth Judicial District								
Douglas County								
East Fork Justice Court	1,355	1,384	535	705	1,890	2,089	5,478	6,380
Tahoe Justice Court	784	757	276	76	1,060	833	2,620	2,164
Total	25,750	25,073 ^r	89,140	78,002 ^r	114,890	103,077 ^r	321,798	316,270 ^r

NR Not reported.

Italic indicates numbers that are incomplete.

^r Data totals revised from previous publication.

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

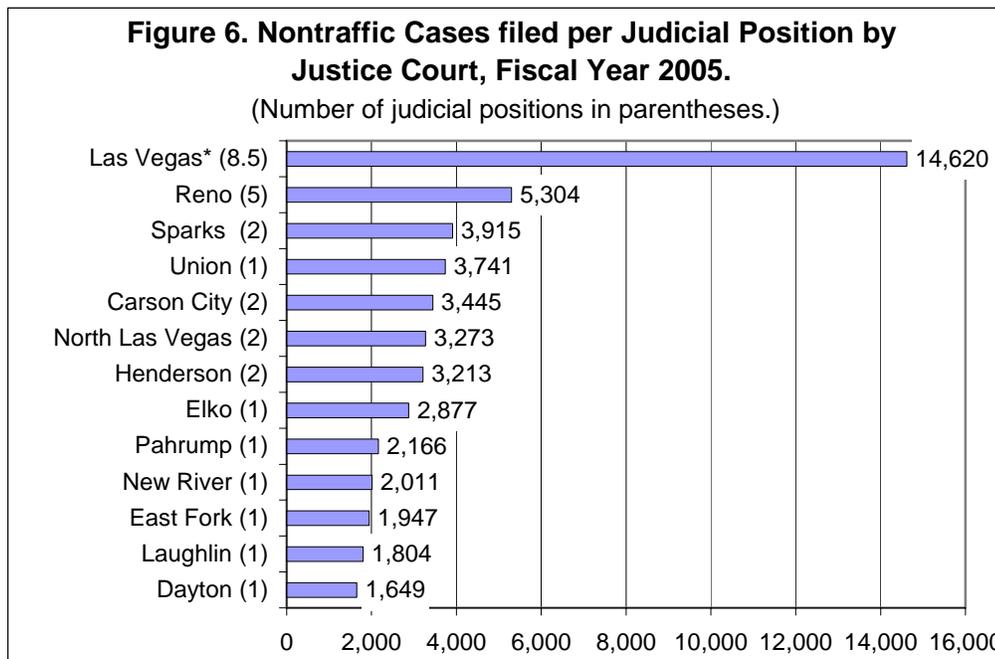
Cases Per Judicial Position

Justice Courts present a unique problem when comparing nontraffic cases per judicial position. Many Justices of the Peace work part-time. Cases in Justice Courts tend to be much simpler than cases in District Courts, thus a Justice Court can handle a larger number of cases per judicial position. Traffic charges are not included in the determination of cases filed per judicial position because many traffic charges are paid by mail or at the counter. The Las Vegas Justice Court added a new Judge in January 2005.

To simplify the presentation in Figure 6, only those Justice Courts with 1,000 or more nontraffic cases per judicial position are shown; the remaining

courts are listed in a footnote.¹⁰ The break at 1,000 was arbitrary. The caseload information for Carson City Justice and Municipal Court, a consolidated municipality, is provided in Figure 6 and Table 12 with Justice Courts.

In Figure 6, ten courts have more than 2,000 nontraffic cases filed per judicial position. Las Vegas had the most at 14,620, up from the previous year (14,469) even after including the new position added midyear. The statewide average of nontraffic cases filed per judicial position for Justice Courts is 3,224, an increase from last fiscal year (2,988), nearly an 8 percent increase.



* Las Vegas Justice Court added one new judicial position at the beginning of January 2005. Statewide average of cases filed per judicial position for all Justice Courts is 3,224. Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

¹⁰ Remaining Justice Courts and their nontraffic cases filed per judicial position (each court has one judicial position). Asterisk indicates judicial position is part-time.

Canal Justice Court*	964	Tonopah Justice Court	354	Meadow V. Justice Court*	72
Hawthorne Justice Court*	963	Jackpot Justice Court*	257	Esmeralda Justice Court	52
Incline Village Justice Court	838	Goodsprings Justice Court	231	Moapa Justice Court*	44
Tahoe Justice Court	780	Beatty Justice Court	215	Beowawe Justice Court*	35
Mason V. Justice Court	640	Virginia City Justice Court*	206	Verdi Justice Court*	32
Argenta Justice Court	625	Austin Justice Court*	194	Smith V. Justice Court*	27
Ely (No. 1) Justice Court	618	Moapa V. Justice Court*	182	Bunkerville Justice Court	22
Lake Justice Court	500	Wells Justice Court*	152	Lund (No. 2) Justice Court*	10
Carlin Justice Court*	440	Pahrnatag V. Justice Court*	120	Baker (No. 3) Justice Court*	1
Boulder Justice Court*	405	Wadsworth Justice Court*	108	McDermitt Justice Court*	0
Mesquite Justice Court*	394	Eureka Justice Court*	101	Paradise V. Justice Court*	0
East Line Justice Court*	373	Searchlight Justice Court*	85		

Judicial Assistance

As with the District Courts, quasi-judicial assistance may be used by Justice Courts. The AOC and the courts are quantifying the judicial assistance provided to the courts to help dispose of cases. In Justice Courts, these are special master positions that help with the adjudication process, but are

Municipal Courts

not elected judicial officials. The courts were asked to provide an estimate of the full-time equivalent (FTE) assistance provided during the year.

Las Vegas is the only Justice Court that reported quasi-judicial positions to help with their burgeoning caseload. Las Vegas reported 1.35 FTE in traffic judges who helped with traffic matters only and 0.90 FTE in other quasi-judicial positions that helped with small claims cases. The traffic and small claims referees' recommendations or judgments are subject to review and confirmation by sitting Justices of the Peace.

Municipal Courts are city courts that handle cases involving the violation of city ordinances. Their jurisdiction includes nontraffic misdemeanors and traffic violations and, in some cities, parking. Although they generally do not handle civil cases, they have limited jurisdiction under Nevada Revised Statute 5.050 to preside over cases for collection of debts for city utilities.

Most Municipal Court Judges are elected within the municipality they serve (see Figure 7); however, some are appointed by their mayor or city council.

Figure 7. Municipal Court Judges by county and incorporated city in Nevada as of June 30, 2005 (except where otherwise noted).

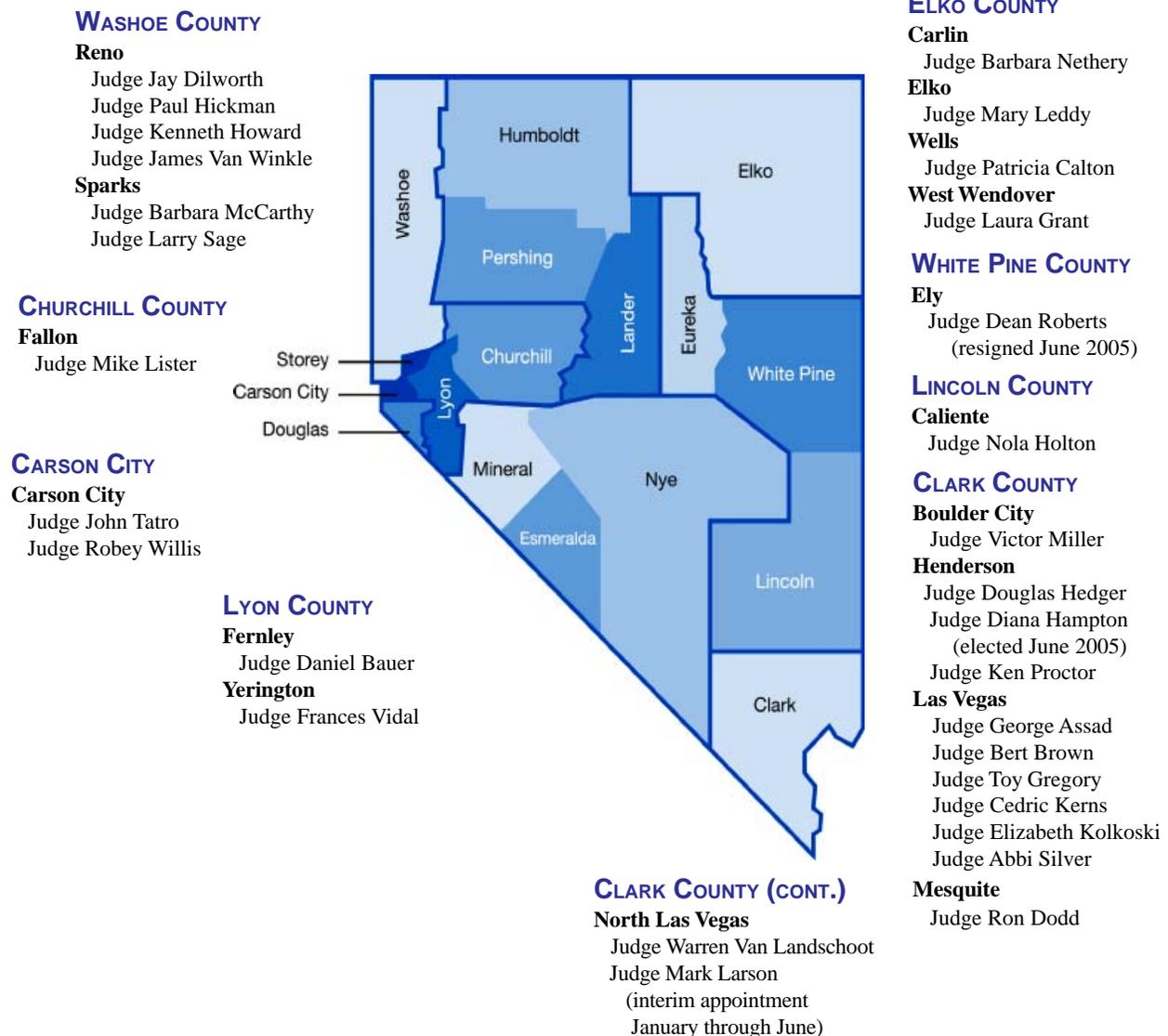


Table 14. Summary of Municipal Court Cases Filed, Fiscal Years 2004-05.

Court	Nontraffic Misdemeanor Defendants Charged		Total Traffic & Parking Charges		Civil Filings ^a	
	FY05	FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05	FY04
Boulder Municipal Court	528	458	4,208	3,696	NR	NR
Caliente Municipal Court	23	15	100	47	0	20
Carlin Municipal Court	74	83	119	132	0	0
Carson City Municipal Court	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Elko Municipal Court	346	300	1,699	1,868	NR	NR
Ely Municipal Court	122	118	435	369	NR	NR
Fallon Municipal Court	405	431	873	1,181	0	0
Fernley Municipal Court	268	235	2,405	2,095	NR	NR
Henderson Municipal Court	6,227	5,353	25,422	23,315	NR	NR
Las Vegas Municipal Court	31,261 ^c	28,259 ^c	122,577	115,710	(d)	(d)
Mesquite Municipal Court	527	579	2,741	2,259	NR	NR
North Las Vegas Municipal Court	8,509	8,364	44,218	47,618	(d)	(d)
Reno Municipal Court	7,440	7,598	24,611	26,131	(d)	(d)
Sparks Municipal Court	2,354	5,724	11,305	10,265	NR	NR
Wells Municipal Court	34	40	109	163	NR	NR
West Wendover Municipal Court	316	500	423	887	NR	NR
Yerington Municipal Court	87	113	284	266	NR	NR
Total	58,521	58,235	241,529	236,126	0	20

NR Not reported.

^a Municipal Courts have very limited civil jurisdiction.

^b Municipal Court data combined with Justice Court data (Table A6) for the consolidated municipality of Carson City.

^c Court reported nontraffic misdemeanor numbers by charges so total charges were divided by the statewide Municipal Court average of 1.5 charges per defendant so more appropriate comparisons can be made.

^d Cases are handled administratively by the city.

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

Statistical Summary

The Municipal Court case filing information for the last two fiscal years is summarized in Table 14. Disposition summary information is provided in Table 15. With 6 years of data, some trends may begin to materialize; however, increases during the early years of data collection may be affected as much by improved reporting as by true, increased caseloads.

Statewide, Municipal Court criminal caseload in fiscal year 2005 was flat (less than 1 percent increase) from last fiscal year, while municipal traffic violations increased just over 2 percent.

In criminal case filings, some Municipal Courts experienced large increases (Caliente and Henderson) or decreases (Sparks, West Wendover, and Yerington). This is also true for traffic and parking violations where some Municipal Courts saw large increases (Caliente, Ely, and Mesquite) as opposed to some courts (Fallon, Wells, and West Wendover)

who had large decreases. As noted in Justice Court discussions, these increases and decreases are attributable to the increase or decrease in vacant local law enforcement positions.

For the first time in 4 years, Municipal Courts reported no civil filings. On occasion, municipalities may seek collection of unpaid power bills through the courts. This is the type of limited jurisdiction civil case a Municipal Court may handle.

The disposition information for Municipal Courts is provided in Table 15. Municipal Courts continue to improve their data collection by modifying or implementing case management systems.

Nontraffic dispositions decreased about 1 percent from last fiscal year. The traffic and parking violation dispositions increased more than 7 percent over last fiscal year.

Dividing the number of cases disposed by the number of cases filed and multiplying by 100 pro-

Table 15. Summary of Municipal Court Cases Disposed, Fiscal Years 2004-05.

Court	Nontraffic Misdemeanor Cases Disposed		Traffic & Parking Violations Disposed		Civil Cases Disposed	
	FY05	FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05	FY04
Boulder Municipal Court	998	720	3,957	3,457	NR	NR
Caliente Municipal Court	13	12	68	53	0	8
Carlin Municipal Court	56	89	112	96	0	0
Carson City Municipal Court	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Elko Municipal Court	278	204	1,356	1,671	NR	NR
Ely Municipal Court	209	219	471	385	NR	NR
Fallon Municipal Court	160	229	426	561	0	0
Fernley Municipal Court	430	381	2,234	2,350	NR	NR
Henderson Municipal Court	6,886	6,027	23,430	21,554	NR	NR
Las Vegas Municipal Court	30,004 ^b	29,862 ^{b,r}	125,049	115,966	(c)	(c)
Mesquite Municipal Court	700	762	2,493	2,048	NR	NR
North Las Vegas Municipal Court	7,849	6,904	38,489	35,452	(c)	(c)
Reno Municipal Court	8,445 ^b	7,939 ^{b,r}	26,085	23,477	(c)	(c)
Sparks Municipal Court	2,578	5,893 ^e	11,752	11,865 ^e	NR	NR
Wells Municipal Court	13	25	85	130	NR	NR
West Wendover Municipal Court	227	308	471	896	NR	NR
Yerington Municipal Court	202	106	247	136	NR	NR
Total	59,048	59,745^r	236,725	220,151	0	8

NR Not reported.

^a Municipal Court data combined with Justice Court data (Table A6) for the consolidated municipality of Carson City.

^b Court reported nontraffic misdemeanor numbers by charges so total dispositions were divided by the Municipal Court statewide average of 1.5 dispositions per defendant so more appropriate comparisons can be made.

^c Cases are handled administratively by the city.

^e Estimated.

^r Revised from previous publication.

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

vides a clearance rate for the court. This measure can be compared across courts for any case type. Courts should aspire to dispose of at least as many cases as have been filed, reopened, or reactivated in a period according to the National Center for State Courts in their recently published *CourTools*.

Cases Per Judicial Position

The number of cases filed per judicial position for Municipal Courts in fiscal year 2005 is shown in Figure 8. In the Justice and Municipal Courts, traffic charges are not included in the determination of cases filed per judicial position because they may be resolved without judicial action and provides a more equal comparison across courts.

The North Las Vegas and Henderson Municipal Courts added new judges in fiscal year 2005 (the middle of January and near the end of June, respec-

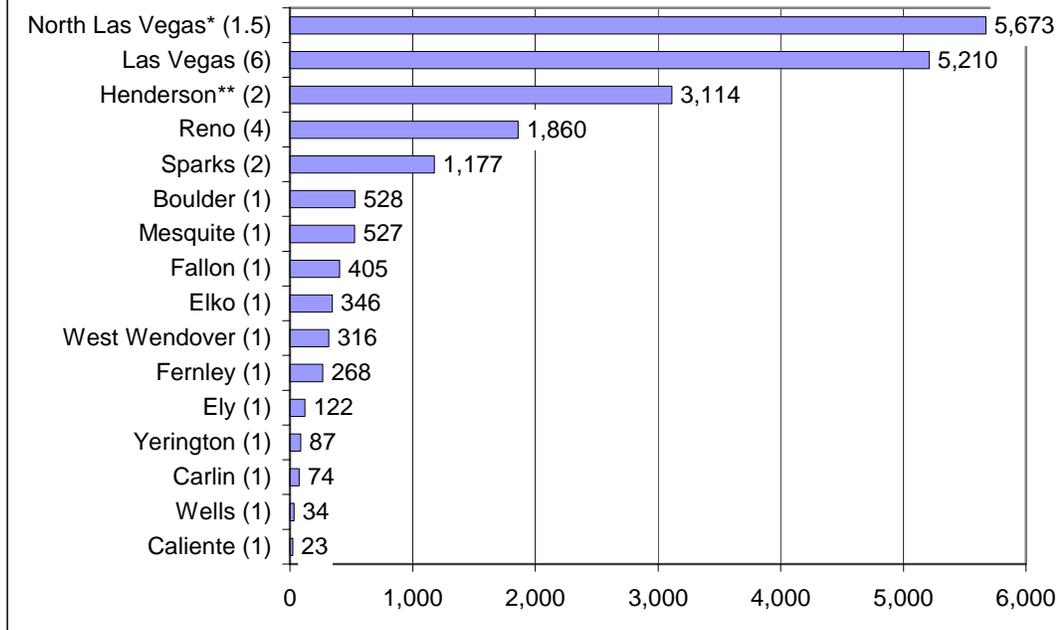
tively). In determining the cases per judicial position for North Las Vegas Municipal Court, 1.5 judges were used to reflect that addition in January; however, only two judges were used for Henderson as the additional judge took office during the last few days of the fiscal year.

Continuing the order of the past two fiscal years, the two Municipal Courts with the largest nontraffic caseload per judicial position are North Las Vegas (5,673) and Las Vegas (5,210). They are followed by Henderson (3,114), Reno (1,860), and Sparks (1,177). The statewide average of nontraffic cases filed per judicial position for Municipal Courts is 2,208, an increase from the previous fiscal year (2,157).

The caseload information for Carson City Justice and Municipal Court, a consolidated municipality, is provided in Figure 6 and Table 12 with Justice Courts.

Figure 8. Nontraffic Cases Filed per Judicial Position by Municipal Court, Fiscal Year 2005.

(Number of judicial positions in parentheses.)



* North Las Vegas Municipal Court added one new judicial position at the beginning of January 2005.

** Henderson Municipal Court added one new judicial position near the end of June 2005.

Statewide average of cases filed per judicial position for Municipal Courts is 2,208.

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

Judicial Assistance

Quasi-judicial assistance may be used by Municipal Courts as well. The AOC and the courts are estimating the judicial assistance provided to the courts to help dispose cases. These are positions that help with the adjudication process but are not elected judicial officials. The courts were asked to provide an estimate of the full-time equivalent (FTE) assistance provided during the year.

Las Vegas was the only Municipal Court that noted any judicial assistance. They had 0.16 FTE in assistance with misdemeanor nontraffic and traffic cases (Alternate Judge).

Specialty Court Programs

Specialty Courts use problem-solving processes designed to address the root causes of criminal activity. Some of the most prominent types of Specialty Courts are Drug, Mental Health, and Prison Re-entry Courts. Specialty Courts are also categorized according to the needs of the adult, family, or juvenile directly affected by these issues.

In addition to the benefits provided to the defendants, Specialty Courts benefit the counties and taxpayers by reducing the number of people in prisons and decreasing recidivism rates. Without this intervention, many or all of the babies born to participants would have been born with drugs in their systems and would have experienced associated drug-related developmental problems, likely requiring taxpayer-funded treatment.

Although Nevada operates many types of Specialty Courts, the Drug Courts are the most established and widely known. Nevada has led the nation in the development of Drug Courts as an alternative way of helping criminal defendants become productive members of society. Drug Courts are highly effective with defendants whose drug use or abuse bring them in contact with the criminal justice system.

Nevada has several Drug Courts at all three trial court levels. The Adult Criminal Drug Court is the most common. Participants involved in the criminal justice system enroll in the program as part of their sentence and rehabilitation, or as a diversion to avoid a serious criminal conviction. Prison Re-entry Drug Courts address prison inmate needs by combining drug treatment and early release to reduce recidivism. Family, Dependency, and Child Support Drug Courts all deal with domestic situations aggravated by the use of illegal drugs. Juvenile Drug Courts treat youthful offenders whose drug use led to juvenile delinquency charges. In addition, some courts offer treatment programs for alcohol use or abuse in addition to or instead of drugs.

The development of Mental Health Courts emerged from the success of the Drug Court model. Large percentages of people in jail have mental health disorders. Nationally, the crisis in mental health care may be traced to the long-term effects of the deinstitutionalization of the mentally ill and the lack of a corresponding increase in community-based mental health care.

Mental Health Court was designed to identify the chronic, severely mentally ill who were being repeat-

edly incarcerated and instead, divert them into treatment. The Mental Health Court benefits from a significant, multi-agency effort. This system-wide effort has created coordinated systems of care and the environment necessary for success. As with Drug Courts, treating the mental illness increases an offenders chances of successful rehabilitation.

During the 2003 Legislature, Assembly Bill 29 was passed, which added a \$7 assessment to misdemeanor convictions in Justice and Municipal Courts, to provide additional funding for Specialty Courts throughout the state. The statute (NRS 176.0613) specifies what type of courts may apply for funding.

All Specialty Court data submitted by the courts are compiled in Table 16. The information provided is tracked separately by the Specialty Courts' staff. No standards have been defined and applied statewide. For example, some courts provide the number of participants for the year and some provide the number of new admissions. As these have slightly different connotations, care should be taken in direct comparisons among the programs. The Judicial Council of the State of Nevada, Specialty Court Funding Committee, is developing statewide standards to eliminate these issues.

District Court Programs

In fiscal year 2005, many new Specialty Courts began, while many existing programs continued their effective supervision of defendants. The District Court programs noted in Table 16 served more than 1,600 defendants, graduating 584 of them during the fiscal year. Of those participants, 65 gave birth to drug-free babies during the year.

The Eastern Nevada Adult Drug Court program began April 2005. The adult only program includes cases from the Elko County District Court. As a new Drug Court, the first group of participants is still in the process of completing the program, which generally takes about a year. Additional District Courts within this area will begin Drug Courts as resources become available.

As of September 2004, Elko County also has a Juvenile Drug Court program.

The Western Nevada Regional Drug Court program began in fiscal year 2002, and encompasses courts of the First, Third, Fifth, and Ninth Judicial Districts. The adult only program includes cases from Carson City, Churchill, Douglas, Lyon, Mineral, and Storey Counties.

Table 16. Summary of Specialty Court Information, Fiscal Year 2005

Jurisdiction	Court Type	New Participants/ Admissions	Terminations ¹	Graduates	Active Cases at Year End	Drug-Free Babies Born
District Courts						
Eastern Nevada	Drug Court					
Elko County	Adult	19	1	0		1
	Juvenile	23	9	1		0
	Total	42	10	1		1
Eighth Judicial District	Drug Court					
	Adult Criminal	523	459	208		
	Child Support	20	5	4		
	Dependency	75	52	45		
	Juvenile	84	26	20		
	Prison Re-entry	34	18	23		
	Total	736	560	300		21
	Mental Health Court	26	12	0	33	
Fifth Judicial District	Drug Court					
	Adult Criminal	20	4	6		
	Family	3	0	0		
	Juvenile	6	3	0		
	Total	29	7	6		
First Judicial District	Drug Court					
Carson City	Juvenile	4	6	5	5	
Second Judicial District	Drug Court					
	Adult Criminal	238	42	74	290	18
	Adult Diversion	133	27	35	196	7
	Prison Re-entry	23	6	5	12	
	Family	26	11	23	24	5
	Juvenile	22	5	10	18	1
	Total	442	91	147	540	31
	Mental Health Court	138	54	48	154	
Sixth Judicial District	Drug Court					
Humboldt County	Adult Criminal	35	9	0	26	
Lander County	Adult Criminal	7	0	0	7	
	Total	42	9	0	33	
Western Nevada Regional						
First Judicial District Carson City & Storey	Drug Court	48			62	
Third Judicial District Churchill	Drug Court	39			41	
Lyon		48			38	
Fifth Judicial District Mineral	Drug Court	13			14	
Ninth Judicial District Douglas	Drug Court	35			41	
	Total	183		77	196	12
District Court Totals		1,635	749	584		65
Justice Courts						
Carson City	Mental Health Court	15	2	0		
Las Vegas	Drug Court	80	17	36		
Las Vegas	DUI Diversion	75	10	45		
Laughlin	Drug Court	17	8	10	2	
Reno	Drug Court	112	9	65	106	
Justice Court Totals		299	46	156		0
Municipal Courts						
Reno (RAAD)	Alcohol & Drug Court	50	9	36		
Sparks	Alcohol & Drug Court	37	4	19		
Municipal Court Totals		87	13	55		0
GRAND TOTAL ALL SPECIALTY COURTS		2,021	808	795		65

¹ Includes remands/removals, transfers to other specialty courts, and deceased participants.

A unique element of the Regional Drug Court is that the presiding judge must travel to hear many of the cases in the other participating Judicial Districts. Most of the individual counties within the Western Nevada Regional Drug Court program area also have some separate form of juvenile drug court.

The Nye County Adult Drug Court program in the Fifth Judicial District has been operating since April 2002. They began operating a Juvenile Drug Court in February 2004.

The Humboldt and Lander County Drug Court programs in the Sixth Judicial District have been operating since July and August 2004, respectively.

The Washoe County District Court Drug Court program has been in operation since 1994. Washoe County began a Mental Health Court in November 2001.

The Clark County District Court began the first Nevada Drug Court in 1992; the fifth drug court in the nation at that time. In December 2000, Clark County implemented the nation's first Prison (Early Release) Re-entry Drug Court. They also provide a Mental Health Court, which began in December 2003. The program has no graduates yet, due to the 2-year minimum treatment requirement.

Justice Court Programs

Several Justice Courts have started Specialty Courts recently. The Justice Court programs noted in Table 16 served almost 300 defendants, graduating more than half of them (156) during the fiscal year.

The Carson City Mental Health Court handles misdemeanor cases as well as any felony cases transferred from the First Judicial District Court. The first Mental Health Court hearing was heard in March 2005.

The Las Vegas and Laughlin Justice Courts provide Drug Court programs. Las Vegas Justice Court also provides a DUI Diversion program (Moderate Offender program), which began in December 2003. The purpose of this program is to identify high-risk DUI offenders who would benefit from long-term treatment and intensive supervision. Of the 50 participants who have completed this program, only 1 has reoffended for driving under the influence.

The Dayton Justice Court has a Specialty Court that includes primarily drug, DUI, and domestic violence offenders. The Reno Justice Court has a Counseling Compliance program, which is a drug, alcohol, and domestic violence related court program.

Municipal Court Programs

A couple of the Municipal Courts have Specialty Courts. The two Municipal Court programs noted in Table 16 served 87 defendants, graduating almost two-thirds of them (55) during the fiscal year.

The Reno Municipal Court's Recovery from Addiction to Alcohol and Drugs (RAAD) program was started in 2002. The program is for defendants charged with a DUI, drug possession, or domestic violence co-occurring with drug or alcohol use.

The Sparks Municipal Court Alcohol and Other Drug Court began in 1999 and was Nevada's first limited jurisdiction Drug Court.

Courts with Incomplete Data

Courts that did not provide all of their monthly data for fiscal year 2005 are listed in Table 17, as are the specific elements of the data missing during the year.

Other tables in this report have data in italics or a footnote (*i*) to indicate the data are incomplete and refers the reader here (Table 17) to determine what is missing. In a few instances, courts submitted all they could count, but acknowledge that there are issues with the numbers and the courts are working to correct them. In those instances, the data will be in italics or flagged with footnote *e*, estimated, but the court may not appear in Table 17 if all monthly reports were filed.

Once again, all courts provided caseload information. However, some filing or disposition information for four of the courts is missing. Last fiscal year, eight courts were unable to provide all of their caseload disposition information. Reporting by the courts continues to improve and all the courts are to be commended for their efforts to meet the Uniform System for Judicial Records reporting requirements.

Disposition information is harder for court staff to collect than filing information. Many courts throughout Nevada do not have automated case management systems; court staff manually collect the information from each case or citation.

The Administrative Office of the Courts is working with many trial courts on technology projects that will bring case management systems to many of the rural courts and similar technology to some urban courts. This new system will improve court processes and procedures while also providing the courts with an automated mechanism to prepare their monthly statistics reports.

During fiscal year 2005, Canal (Fernley), Dayton, Lake (Lovelock), Mason Valley, Pahrnagat Valley, and Wadsworth Justice Courts along with Sparks Municipal Court began using the new system in its entirety. This brings the total number of courts using all or part of the new system to 26. Several courts are scheduled to go to the new system during the next fiscal year.

Table 17. Courts with Incomplete Data.

Court	Missing Data	
Fifth Judicial District		
Hawthorne Justice Court	Criminal Disposition Data (except traffic) Civil Disposition Data	July 2004 - June 2005 July 2004 - June 2005
Seventh Judicial District		
White Pine District Court	Civil Disposition Data	Unable to provide complete information.
Baker Justice Court	Civil Filings & Disposition Data	July 2004 - April 2005, June 2005
Eighth Judicial District		
Las Vegas Justice Court	Criminal Disposition Data	July 2004 - June 2005



Uniform System for Judicial Records



APPENDIXES

Table A1. Summary of Population, Judicial Positions, and Cases Processed by Court for Nevada Judiciary, Fiscal Year 2005.

	Population as of 7/01/04 ^a	Authorized Judicial Positions on 6/30/05	Criminal Cases ^b	Non- Criminal Cases ^c	Total Non- Traffic Cases	Total Nontraffic Cases Disposed	Traffic & Parking Violations	Traffic & Parking Violations Disposed
First Judicial District	59,943	2	286	2,397	2,683	1,440	1,145	1,151
Carson City District Court	56,146		274	2,338	2,612	1,403	1,125	1,131
Storey County District Court	3,797		12	59	71	37	20	20
Carson City								
Carson City Justice/Municipal Court ^d	56,146	2	2,028	4,861	6,889	NR	18,190	16,931
Storey County								
Virginia City Justice Court	3,797	1	120	86	206	228	720	421
Second Judicial District	383,453	12	3,025	19,764	22,789	19,340	NR	NR
Washoe County District Court	383,453		3,025	19,764	22,789	19,340	NR	NR
Washoe County								
Incline Village Justice Court	11,012	1	590	248	838	822	2,145	2,004
Reno Justice Court	239,312	5	6,551	19,971	26,522	17,038	40,552	26,158
Sparks Justice Court	127,063	2	2,641	5,188	7,829	5,403	8,156	6,530
Verdi Justice Court	3,392	0 ^f	16	16	32	17	1,019	970
Wadsworth Justice Court	2,674	1	80	28	108	72	3,963	3,070
Reno Municipal Court	199,249	4	7,440	NJ	7,440	8,445	24,611	26,085
Sparks Municipal Court	81,673	2	2,354	0	2,354	2,578	11,305	11,752
Third Judicial District	70,752	3	392	3,620	4,012	2,058	2,060	1,878
Churchill County District Court	26,106		192	1,862	2,054	1,105	407	456
Lyon County District Court	44,646		200	1,758	1,958	953	1,653	1,422
Churchill County								
New River Justice Court	26,106	1	631	1,380	2,011	2,079	6,093	5,510
Fallon Municipal Court	8,398	1	405	0	405	160	873	426
Lyon County								
Canal Justice Court	13,775	1	224	740	964	687	1,764	1,777
Dayton Justice Court	19,939	1	972	677	1,649	1,877	3,901	3,616
Mason Valley Justice Court	9,049	1	210	430	640	732	2,091	1,937
Smith Valley Justice Court	1,883	1	11	16	27	21	157	162
Fernley Municipal Court	13,775	1	268	NR	268	430	2,405	2,234
Yerington Municipal Court	2,912	(g)	87	NR	87	202	284	247
Fourth Judicial District	46,499	2	247	2,362	2,609	1,757	767	732
Elko County District Court	46,499		247	2,362	2,609	1,757	767	732
Elko County								
Carlin Justice Court	2,430	1	305	135	440	347	425	291
East Line Justice Court	4,830	1	220	153	373	285	751	660
Elko Justice Court	35,101	1	1,165	1,712	2,877	2,517	7,579	4,958
Jackpot Justice Court	1,180	1	193	64	257	83	1,249	1,406
Wells Justice Court	2,958	1	95	57	152	138	3,784	3,118
Carlin Municipal Court	2,240	(h)	74	0	74	56	119	112
Elko Municipal Court	17,140	(i)	346	NR	346	278	1,699	1,356
Wells Municipal Court	1,406	(j)	34	NR	34	13	109	85
West Wendover Municipal Court	4,830	(k)	316	NR	316	227	423	471
Fifth Judicial District	44,030	2	340	2,653	2,993	2,308	200	316
Esmeralda County District Court	1,176		10	29	39	30	10	9
Mineral County District Court	4,673		68	180	248	293	7	0
Nye County District Court	38,181		262	2,444	2,706	1,985	183	307
Esmeralda County								
Esmeralda Justice Court	1,176	1	30	22	52	35	2,595	2,605
Mineral County								
Hawthorne Justice Court	4,673	1	725	238	963	—	4,217	3,435
Nye County								
Beatty Justice Court	2,128	1	170	45	215	228	2,172	2,430
Pahrump Justice Court	31,260	1	973	1,193	2,166	1,931	4,614	4,594
Tonopah Justice Court	4,793	1	220	134	354	302	2,670	2,261

NJ Not within court jurisdiction.

NR Not reported.

^a Source: Nevada State Demographer. "Township boundaries may not correspond to incorporated cities, and are estimated using a different method than the city/town estimates. Because of this, they will differ from city estimates."

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

^b Criminal cases include felony, gross misdemeanor, and nontraffic misdemeanor defendants. Traffic and parking violations are not included.

^c Non-criminal cases include civil, family, and juvenile (nontraffic) cases for District Court and civil cases for Justice and Municipal Courts.

^d Carson City is a combined county and city municipality. Two judges serve in the combined Justice/Municipal Court.

^f Verdi Justice Court closed on May 31, 2005.

Table A1. Summary of Population, Judicial Positions, and Cases Processed by Court for Nevada Judiciary, Fiscal Year 2005 (cont.).

	Population as of 7/01/04 ^a	Authorized Judicial Positions on 6/30/05	Criminal Cases ^b	Non- Criminal Cases ^c	Total Non- Traffic Cases	Total Nontraffic Cases Disposed	Traffic & Parking Violations	Traffic & Parking Violations Disposed
Sixth Judicial District	28,680	2	251	916	1,167	758	124	124
Humboldt County District Court	16,692		170	537	707	360	NR	NR
Lander County District Court	5,357		23	195	218	181	124	124
Pershing County District Court	6,631		58	184	242	217	0	0
Humboldt County								
McDermitt Justice Court	1,157	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paradise Valley Justice Court	425	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Union Justice Court	15,109	1	2,885	856	3,741	2,792	4,200	3,886
Lander County								
Argenta Justice Court	4,825	1	215	410	625	474	3,758	3,234
Austin Justice Court	532	1	182	12	194	20	1,532	1,257
Pershing County								
Lake Justice Court	6,631	1	248	252	500	319	988	764
Seventh Judicial District	14,272	2	170	547	717	641		
Eureka County District Court	1,484		18	49	67	15	(/)	(/)
Lincoln County District Court	3,822		26	93	119	145	(/)	(/)
White Pine County District Court	8,966		126	405	531	481	(/)	(/)
Eureka County								
Beowawe Justice Court	496	1	33	2	35	23	1,043	930
Eureka Justice Court	988	1	77	24	101	71	717	664
Lincoln County								
Meadow Valley Justice Court	2,742	1	56	16	72	56	893	646
Pahranagat Valley Justice Court	1,080	1	109	11	120	90	3,636	3,204
Caliente Municipal Court	1,014	(m)	23	0	23	0	100	68
White Pine County								
Baker (No. 3) Justice Court	179	1	0	1	1	0	8	8
Ely (No. 1) Justice Court	8,388	1	193	425	618	548	3,015	2,470
Lund (No. 2) Justice Court	398	1	1	9	10	2	166	155
Ely Municipal Court	3,962	1	122	NR	122	209	435	471
Eighth Judicial District	1,715,337	33	9,198	80,774	89,972	73,123	2,652	NR
Clark County District Court	1,715,337		9,198	80,774	89,972	73,123	2,652	NR
Clark County								
Boulder Justice Court	15,594	1	120	285	405	370	682	597
Bunkerville Justice Court	1,185	1	13	9	22	19	1,295	1,278
Goodsprings Justice Court	3,936	1	172	59	231	188	8,203	6,854
Henderson Justice Court	230,950	2	2,233	4,193	6,426	3,698	6,606	5,872
Las Vegas Justice Court	1,240,965	9	49,633	74,633	124,266	—	222,688	172,066
Laughlin Justice Court	8,145	1	1,428	376	1,804	1,455	7,746	4,652
Mesquite Justice Court	15,985	1	148	246	394	285	34	1
Moapa Justice Court	1,491	1	33	11	44	25	3,994	3,746
Moapa Valley Justice Court	6,842	1	127	55	182	167	914	813
North Las Vegas Justice Court	188,426	2	3,260	3,285	6,545	—	910	901
Searchlight Justice Court	1,819	1	74	11	85	85	4,766	4,858
Boulder Municipal Court	15,058	(n)	528	0	528	998	4,208	3,957
Henderson Municipal Court	229,984	3	6,227	NR	6,227	6,886	25,422	23,430
Las Vegas Municipal Court	549,571	6	31,261	NJ	31,261	30,004	122,577	125,049
Mesquite Municipal Court	15,881	(o)	527	NR	527	700	2,741	2,493
North Las Vegas Municipal Court	164,971	2	8,509	NJ	8,509	7,849	44,218	38,489
Ninth Judicial District	47,803	2	147	1,487	1,634	1,502	469	429
Douglas County District Court	47,803		147	1,487	1,634	1,502	469	429
Douglas County								
East Fork Justice Court	40,026	1	992	955	1,947	1,890	7,617	5,478
Tahoe Justice Court	7,777	1	594	186	780	1,060	5,935	2,620
TOTALS	2,410,768							
District Court Judges		60	14,056	114,520	128,576	102,927	7,417	4,630
Justice Court Judges		64	80,996	123,716	204,712	114,890	410,153	321,798
Municipal Court Judges		30	58,521	0	58,521	59,048	241,529	236,725

^g Smith Valley Justice Court judge also serves as Yerington Municipal Court judge.

^h Carlin Justice Court judge also serves as Carlin Municipal Court judge.

ⁱ Elko Justice Court judge also serves as Elko Municipal Court judge.

^j Wells Justice Court judge also serves as Wells Municipal Court judge.

^k East Line Justice Court judge also serves as West Wendover Municipal Court judge.

^l Justices of the peace serve as juvenile masters for all juvenile traffic cases.

^m Pahranagat Valley Justice Court judge also serves as Caliente Municipal Court judge.

ⁿ Boulder Justice Court judge also serves as Boulder City Municipal Court judge.

^o Mesquite Justice Court judge also serves as Mesquite Municipal Court judge.

Table A2. Criminal Caseload Processed by District Courts in Nevada, Fiscal Year 2005.

	Criminal Defendants Charged		Criminal Appeals from Lower Court	Total Cases Filed	Total Cases Disposed
	Felony	Gross Misdemeanor			
First Judicial District					
Carson City District Court	235	33	6	274	253
Storey County District Court	12	0	0	12	8
Second Judicial District					
Washoe County District Court	2,095	894	36	3,025	2,864
Third Judicial District					
Churchill County District Court	152	39	1	192	126
Lyon County District Court	170	27	3	200	151
Fourth Judicial District					
Elko County District Court	234	2	11	247	222
Fifth Judicial District					
Esmeralda County District Court	8	2	0	10	10
Mineral County District Court	61	7	0	68	59
Nye County District Court	245	16	1	262	228
Sixth Judicial District					
Humboldt County District Court	137	31	2	170	82
Lander County District Court	19	4	0	23	21
Pershing County District Court	56	0	2	58	57
Seventh Judicial District					
Eureka County District Court	17	1	0	18	11
Lincoln County District Court	24	0	2	26	38
White Pine County District Court	112	7	7	126	77
Eighth Judicial District					
Clark County District Court	7,899 ^a	1,151 ^a	148	9,198	11,768
Ninth Judicial District					
Douglas County District Court	138	7	2	147	129
Total	11,614	2,221	221	14,056	16,104

^a Data are by cases instead of defendants.

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

Table A3. Civil Caseload Processed by District Courts in Nevada, Fiscal Year 2005.

	New Civil Cases Filed						Reopened Cases	Total Civil Cases	Total Cases Disposed
	Real Property	Construction Defect	Torts - Negligence	Torts	Probate	Other			
First Judicial District									
Carson City District Court	20	0	118	29	128	377	0	672	348
Storey County District Court	4	1	3	1	17	4	0	30	9
Second Judicial District									
Washoe County District Court	164	8	757	202	587	1,896	414	4,028	2,831
Third Judicial District									
Churchill County District Court	10	0	26	29	48	19	0	132	93
Lyon County District Court	28	1	28	5	114	156	0	332	132
Fourth Judicial District									
Elko County District Court	33	0	66	8	115	155	170	547	195
Fifth Judicial District									
Esmeralda County District Court	1	0	4	1	7	7	0	20	7
Mineral County District Court	6	0	1	5	19	8	0	39	31
Nye County District Court	54	0	29	3	204	125	0	415	254
Sixth Judicial District									
Humboldt County District Court	9	0	11	2	45	53	0	120	47
Lander County District Court	3	0	4	0	18	15	0	40	27
Pershing County District Court	3	0	2	14	37	20	0	76	28
Seventh Judicial District									
Eureka County District Court	0	0	4	0	6	4	0	14	1
Lincoln County District Court	7	0	0	2	6	14	0	29	19
White Pine County District Court	10	0	3	12	39	67	0	131	12 ⁱ
Eighth Judicial District									
Clark County District Court	1,140	64	5,369	466	2,721	11,109	1,533	22,402	20,623
Ninth Judicial District									
Douglas County District Court	31	1	49	8	75	250	6	420	408
Total	1,523	75	6,474	787	4,186	14,279	2,123	29,447	25,065

ⁱ Data are incomplete. See Table 17 for details.

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

Table A4. Family Caseload Processed by District Courts in Nevada, Fiscal Year 2005.

	New Family Related Cases Filed											Total Family Cases	Total Cases Disposed
	Marriage Dis-solution	Support/Custody	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act	Adop-tions	Pater-nity	Termina-tion of Parental Rights	Miscel-laneous Domestic Relations	Guardian-ship	Mental Health Cases	Request for Domestic Violence Protective Orders (TPOs)	Re-opened Cases		
First Judicial District													
Carson City District Court	358	12	144	22	10	22	32	73	4	0	NR	677	502
Storey County District Court	11	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	14	12
Second Judicial District													
Washoe County District Court	2,867	266	1,558	182	47	235	262	546	336	1,875	2,783	10,957	9,565
Third Judicial District													
Churchill County District Court	233	16	147	11	0	18	16	15	0	0	NR	456	359
Lyon County District Court	143	6	276	17	3	15	31	35	0	0	0	526	175
Fourth Judicial District													
Elko County District Court	259	18	243	33	23	15	29	39	0	211	83	953	878
Fifth Judicial District													
Esmeralda County District Court	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	12
Mineral County District Court	21	40	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	66	159
Nye County District Court	756	11	324	8	9	6	19	18	0	0	11	1,162	956
Sixth Judicial District													
Humboldt County District Court	92	14	150	6	5	6	5	22	0	0	11	311	212
Lander County District Court	33	0	1	1	1	2	1	7	0	0	7	53	61
Pershing County District Court	23	2	7	2	0	0	1	16	2	0	2	55	112
Seventh Judicial District													
Eureka County District Court	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7	1
Lincoln County District Court	17	0	8	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	28	42
White Pine County District Court	37	0	52	4	0	3	2	10	1	0	43	152	130
Eighth Judicial District													
Clark County District Court	14,903	1,297	4,753	674	393	698	932	1,458	2,216	8,787	5,770	41,881	38,752
Ninth Judicial District													
Douglas County District Court	615	15	75	15	17	13	15	34	0	0	8	807	773
Total	20,380	1,698	7,738	976	508	1,036	1,345	2,280	2,559	10,873	8,718	58,111	52,701

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

Table A5. Juvenile Caseload Processed by District Courts in Nevada, Fiscal Year 2005.

	Criminal type Juvenile Petitions	Status Petitions	Child Abuse/ Neglect Petitions	Miscel-laneous Petitions	Informal Hearings	Detention/ Extradition Hearings	Protective Custody Hearings	Total Non-Traffic Cases		Traffic Violations	
								Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
First Judicial District											
Carson City District Court	145	17	7	261	261	290	8	989	300	1,125	1,131
Storey County District Court	7	0	0	0	0	8	0	15	8	20	20
Second Judicial District											
Washoe County District Court	2,101	NR	506	21	1,738	NR	413	4,779	4,080	NR	NR
Third Judicial District											
Churchill County District Court	279	62	8	14	837	59	15	1,274	527	407	456
Lyon County District Court	491	46	17	0	210	109	27	900	495	1,653	1,422
Fourth Judicial District											
Elko County District Court	382	1	6	3	223	217	30	862	462	767	732
Fifth Judicial District											
Esmeralda County District Court	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	1	10	9
Mineral County District Court	58	0	1	5	0	1	10	75	44	7 ^a	0
Nye County District Court	343	165	1	3	132	220	3	867	547	183 ^a	307
Sixth Judicial District											
Humboldt County District Court	94	0	12	0	NR	NR	NR	106	19	NR	NR
Lander County District Court	43	0	1	0	15	29	14	102	72	124	124
Pershing County District Court	24	0	7	8	10	0	4	53	20	0	0
Seventh Judicial District											
Eureka County District Court	21	1	0	0	5	0	1	28	2	(b)	(b)
Lincoln County District Court	20	1	2	0	8	2	3	36	46	(b)	(b)
White Pine County District Court	113	0	9	0	0	0	0	122	262	(b)	(b)
Eighth Judicial District											
Clark County District Court	8,637	NR	972	67	0	3,564	3,251	16,491	1,980	2,652	NR
Ninth Judicial District											
Douglas County District Court	186	1	5	1	0	62	5	260	192	469	429
Total	12,944	294	1,555	384	3,439	4,562	3,784	26,962	9,057	7,417	4,630

NR Not reported

^a Traffic are by defendants, not charges.

^b Juvenile traffic violations handled by Justice Courts.

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

Table A6. Criminal Caseload Processed by Justice Courts in Nevada, Fiscal Year 2005.

	Criminal Defendants Charged					Charges				
	Felony	Gross Misdemeanor	Misdemeanor, Nontraffic	Total Filed	Total Disposed	Juvenile Traffic	Traffic Violations	Parking Violations	Total Filed	Total Disposed
First Judicial District										
Carson City										
Carson City Justice Court	668	93	1,267 ^a	2,028	2,176	NJ	18,080 ^a	110 ^a	18,190 ^a	16,931
Storey County										
Virginia City Justice Court	30	2	88	120	118	NJ	710	10	720	421
Second Judicial District										
Washoe County										
Incline Village Justice Court	34	10	546	590	593	90	1,732	323	2,145	2,004
Reno Justice Court	2,255	295	4,001	6,551	6,042	NJ	40,552	NJ	40,552	26,158
Sparks Justice Court	1,024	196	1,421	2,641	2,405	NJ	8,156	NJ	8,156	6,530
Verdi Justice Court	3	3	10	16	6	NJ	1,012	7	1,019	970
Wadsworth Justice Court	0	0	80	80	60	NJ	3,963	0	3,963	3,070
Third Judicial District										
Churchill County										
New River Justice Court	247	64	320	631	967	NJ	6,093	0	6,093	5,510
Lyon County										
Canal Justice Court	121	15	88	224	198	NJ	1,764	0	1,764	1,777
Dayton Justice Court	114	12	846	972	1,154	NJ	3,901	0	3,901	3,616
Mason Valley Justice Court	87	12	111	210	358	NJ	2,091	0	2,091	1,937
Smith Valley Justice Court	2	1	8	11	14	NJ	157	0	157	162
Fourth Judicial District										
Elko County										
Carlin Justice Court	NR	NR	305	305	290	NJ	425	0	425	291
East Line Justice Court	NR	NR	220	220	189	NJ	751	NR	751	660
Elko Justice Court	355	2	808	1,165	1,114	NJ	7,570	9	7,579	4,958
Jackpot Justice Court	8	NR	185	193	32	NJ	1,246	3	1,249	1,406
Wells Justice Court	0	0	95	95	93	NJ	3,784	0	3,784	3,118
Fifth Judicial District										
Esmeralda County										
Esmeralda Justice Court	8	8	14	30	14	NJ	2,595	0	2,595	2,605
Mineral County										
Hawthorne Justice Court	238	18	469	725	104 ⁱ	NJ	4,217 ^b	0	4,217 ^b	3,435 ^b
Nye County										
Beatty Justice Court	51	8	111	170	182	NJ	2,172	0	2,172	2,430
Pahrump Justice Court	385	50	538	973	876	NJ	4,612	2	4,614	4,594
Tonopah Justice Court	83	6	131	220	183	NJ	2,663	7	2,670	2,261
Sixth Judicial District										
Humboldt County										
McDermitt Justice Court	0	0	0	0	0	NJ	0	0	0	0
Paradise Valley Justice Court	0	0	0	0	0	NJ	0	0	0	0
Union Justice Court	297	43	2,545	2,885	2,237	NJ	4,140	60	4,200	3,886
Lander County										
Argenta Justice Court	52	4	159	215	180	NJ	3,750	8	3,758	3,234
Austin Justice Court	3	0	179	182	13	NJ	1,532	0	1,532	1,257
Pershing County										
Lake Justice Court	78	8	162 ^a	248	214	NJ	983 ^a	5 ^a	988 ^a	764
Seventh Judicial District										
Eureka County										
Beowawe Justice Court	4	1	28	33	20	6	1,037	0	1,043	930
Eureka Justice Court	27	4	46	77	60	0	715	2	717	664
Lincoln County										
Meadow Valley Justice Court	22	6	28	56	49	7	886	0	893	646
Pahranagat Valley Justice Court	16	2	91	109	80	20	3,616	0	3,636	3,204
White Pine County										
Baker (No. 3) Justice Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	8	8
Ely (No. 1) Justice Court	101	19	73	193	175	145	2,869	1	3,015	2,470
Lund (No. 2) Justice Court	0	0	1	1	0	0	166	0	166	155
Eighth Judicial District										
Clark County										
Boulder Justice Court	78	14	28	120	111	12	670	0	682	597
Bunkerville Justice Court	6	0	7	13	12	24	1,269	2	1,295	1,278
Goodsprings Justice Court	93	0	79	172	155	0	8,203	0	8,203	6,854
Henderson Justice Court	1,740	161	332	2,233	605	200	6,364	42	6,606	5,872
Las Vegas Justice Court	18,288	1,382	29,963	49,633	NR	5,026	211,938	5,724	222,688	172,066 ^e
Laughlin Justice Court	520	16	892	1,428	1,200	106	6,933	707	7,746	4,652
Mesquite Justice Court	104	4	40	148	107	0	34	0	34	1
Moapa Justice Court	15	0	18	33	20	75	3,919	0	3,994	3,746
Moapa Valley Justice Court	19	21	87	127	146	NR	824	90	914	813
North Las Vegas Justice Court	1,759	122	1,379	3,260	981	18	892	0	910	901
Searchlight Justice Court	27	7	40	74	78	40	4,703 ^b	23	4,766	4,858
Ninth Judicial District										
Douglas County										
East Fork Justice Court	251	24	717	992	1,355	NJ	7,581	36	7,617	5,478
Tahoe Justice Court	139	4	451	594	784	NJ	5,745	190	5,935	2,620
Total	29,352	2,637	49,007	80,996	25,750	5,769	397,023	7,361	410,153	321,798

NJ Not within court jurisdiction.

NR Not reported.

^a Municipal Court data included in totals.

^b Court reported traffic numbers by defendants; could not report by charges.

^e Estimated.

ⁱ Data are incomplete. See Table 17 for details.

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

Table A7. Civil Caseload Processed by Justice Courts in Nevada, Fiscal Year 2005.

	Civil Cases Filed					Reopened Cases	Total Civil Cases	Total Cases Disposed
	General Civil	Small Claims	Summary Eviction	Request for Domestic Violence Protective Orders (TPOs)	Request for Protection Orders (non-domestic violence)			
First Judicial District								
Carson City								
Carson City Justice Court	2,197	550	1,173	424	506	11	4,861	2,989
Storey County								
Virginia City Justice Court	8	18	24	24	12	0	86	110
Second Judicial District								
Washoe County								
Incline Village Justice Court	47	72	96	15	17	1	248	229
Reno Justice Court	11,152	2,622	5,668	(a)	529	0	19,971	10,996
Sparks Justice Court	1,756	1,222	2,042	(a)	168	0	5,188	2,998
Verdi Justice Court	0	6	9	1	0	0	16	11
Wadsworth Justice Court	5	6	13	1	3	0	28	12
Third Judicial District								
Churchill County								
New River Justice Court	407	375	332	128	127	11	1,380	1,112
Lyon County								
Canal Justice Court	112	232	271	67	56	2	740	489
Dayton Justice Court	147	120	242	80	62	26	677	723
Mason Valley Justice Court	82	213	27	78	21	9	430	374
Smith Valley Justice Court	5	9	0	2	0	0	16	7
Fourth Judicial District								
Elko County								
Carlin Justice Court	20	111	4	(a)	(a)	0	135	57
East Line Justice Court	38	88	7	8	12	0	153	96
Elko Justice Court	712	794	175	4	27	0	1,712	1,403
Jackpot Justice Court	5	41	12	1	1	4	64	51
Wells Justice Court	6	30	3	11	7	0	57	45
Fifth Judicial District								
Esmeralda County								
Esmeralda Justice Court	1	6	3	8	4	0	22	21
Mineral County								
Hawthorne Justice Court	36	107	57	38	0	0	238	NR
Nye County								
Beatty Justice Court	6	9	4	23	3	0	45	46
Pahrump Justice Court	217	225	209	350	181	11	1,193	1,055
Tonopah Justice Court	32	36	11	19	35	1	134	119
Sixth Judicial District								
Humboldt County								
McDermitt Justice Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paradise Valley Justice Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Union Justice Court	248	399	33	93	83	0	856	555
Lander County								
Argenta Justice Court	54	332	0	18	6	0	410	294
Austin Justice Court	4	3	0	1	4	0	12	7
Pershing County								
Lake Justice Court	20	136	58	32	6	0	252	105
Seventh Judicial District								
Eureka County								
Beowawe Justice Court	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	3
Eureka Justice Court	7	9	0	5	1	2	24	11
Lincoln County								
Meadow Valley Justice Court	2	10	1	3	0	0	16	7
Pahranagat Valley Justice Court	3	4	2	2	0	0	11	10
White Pine County								
Baker (No. 3) Justice Court	0 ⁱ	0 ⁱ	0 ⁱ	0 ⁱ	1 ⁱ	0	1	0
Ely (No. 1) Justice Court	181	101	54	55	33	1	425	373
Lund (No. 2) Justice Court	0	9	0	0	0	0	9	2
Eighth Judicial District								
Clark County								
Boulder Justice Court	45	67	72	40	61	0	285	259
Bunkerville Justice Court	1	1	0	5	1	1	9	7
Goodsprings Justice Court	18	11	10	14	6	0	59	33
Henderson Justice Court	398	880	2,441	(a)	284	190	4,193	3,093
Las Vegas Justice Court	36,638	8,182	25,121	(a)	1,626	3,066	74,633	57,971
Laughlin Justice Court	36	212	77	35	16	0	376	255
Mesquite Justice Court	25	121	51	14	35	0	246	178
Moapa Justice Court	0	0	3	6	1	1	11	5
Moapa Valley Justice Court	7	11	7	12	18	0	55	21
North Las Vegas Justice Court	158	839	2,176	(a)	107	5	3,285	2,190
Searchlight Justice Court	0	4	4	3	0	0	11	7
Ninth Judicial District								
Douglas County								
East Fork Justice Court	338	247	121	133	116	0	955	535
Tahoe Justice Court	64	43	37	14	20	8	186	276
Total	55,240	18,513	40,650	1,767	4,196	3,350	123,716	89,140

NR Not reported.

^a Temporary protective orders are processed and recorded at the District Court level.

ⁱ Data are incomplete. See Table 17 for details.

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

Table A8. Municipal Court Cases Filed, Fiscal Year 2005.

	Defendants Charged		Charges			Civil Filings ^a
	Misdemeanor, Nontraffic	Traffic Violations	Juvenile Traffic	Parking Violations	Total Traffic and Parking	
Boulder Municipal Court	528	3,954	137	117	4,208	NR
Caliente Municipal Court	23	100	NJ	0	100	0
Carlin Municipal Court	74	118	NJ	1	119	0
Carson City Municipal Court	^(a)	^(a)	NJ	^(a)	^(a)	^(a)
Elko Municipal Court	346	1,641	NJ	58	1,699	NR
Ely Municipal Court	122	423	NJ	12	435	NR
Fallon Municipal Court	405	867	NJ	6	873	0
Fernley Municipal Court	268	2,405	NJ	0	2,405	NR
Henderson Municipal Court	6,227	23,539	1,087	796	25,422	NR
Las Vegas Municipal Court	31,261 ^b	122,577	NJ	^(c)	122,577	^(c)
Mesquite Municipal Court	527	2,688	NJ	53	2,741	NR
North Las Vegas Municipal Court	8,509	41,242	NJ	2,976	44,218	^(c)
Reno Municipal Court	7,440	24,611	NJ	^(c)	24,611	^(c)
Sparks Municipal Court	2,354	11,042	NJ	263	11,305	NR
Wells Municipal Court	34	109	NJ	0	109	NR
West Wendover Municipal Court	316	409	NJ	14	423	NR
Yerington Municipal Court	87	275	NJ	9	284	NR
Total	58,521	236,000	1,224	4,305	241,529	0

NJ Not within court jurisdiction.

NR Not reported.

^a Municipal Court data combined with Justice Court data (Table A6) for the consolidated municipality of Carson City.

^b Court reported nontraffic misdemeanor numbers by charges so total charges were divided by the Municipal Court statewide average of 1.5 charges per defendant so more appropriate comparisons can be made.

^c Parking violations or civil cases are handled administratively by the city.

Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Planning & Analysis Division.

Glossary of Case Types

CRIMINAL CASE TYPES

When to Count Filings: Cases are counted by defendants in District Court when the court receives notification of a bind over from a lower court or receives the formal charging document from the District Attorney's Office. Felony and gross misdemeanor filings in Justice Court are counted by defendants when the court receives the formal charging document, generally a complaint or citation from the District Attorney's Office or law enforcement agency. Misdemeanor and traffic filings in Justice and Municipal Courts are counted when the court receives the citation or complaint. Misdemeanors are counted by defendants and traffic violations are counted by charges.

Felony – Cases heard at District Court with preliminary hearings at Justice Court for defendants charged with a violation of a state law that is punishable by death or imprisonment in the state prison.

Gross Misdemeanor – Cases heard at District Court with preliminary hearings at Justice Court for defendants charged with a violation of state law that involves an offense that does not fit within the definitions of felony, misdemeanor, or traffic case.

Misdemeanor, Nontraffic – Cases heard at Justice and Municipal Courts for defendants charged with the violation of a state law or local ordinance that involves an offense punishable by fine or incarceration or both for no more than \$1,000 or 6 months, respectively.

Misdemeanor, Traffic – Cases heard at Justice and Municipal Courts for moving and non-moving violations of traffic law or ordinance that do not pertain to parking of a motor vehicle. (Counted by charges, not defendants.)

Parking Violations – Cases heard at Justice and Municipal Courts for parking of a motor vehicle in violation of a traffic law or ordinance. (Counted by charges, not defendants.)

Appeal from Lower Court – Cases heard at District Court in which the court reviews the judgment of a Justice or Municipal Court for a criminal case.

When to Count Dispositions: A criminal case is considered disposed when final adjudication for that case occurs. For statistical purposes, final adjudication is defined as date of sentencing, date of adjudication, or date charges are disposed, whichever occurs last.

Criminal Cases Disposed – For District Court, cases are disposed when transferred before or during trial, dismissed after diversion or before trial, guilty plea before trial, bench trial, jury trial, and other manner of disposition. For Justice and Municipal Courts, cases are dismissed before or during preliminary hearing, guilty plea before or during preliminary hearing, waiver of preliminary hearing, bound over to District Court, bail forfeiture, transferred before or during trial, dismissed after diversion, dismissed before trial, guilty plea before trial, bench trial, and jury trial.

CIVIL CASE TYPES

When to Count Filings: Cases are counted when a petition or complaint is filed with the court or the court receives a motion and a court case number is assigned.

Real Property – Cases heard at District Court that deal with ownership or rights in real property excluding construction defect or negligence; includes landlord and tenant disputes, title to property, condemnation, eminent domain, and other real property cases that do not fit in one of the above categories.

Construction Defect – Cases heard at District Court that deal with alleged defects in construction.

Negligence Torts – Cases heard at District Court that deal with an alleged omission to perform an act or use care to perform an act that causes personal injury, property damage, or wrongful death; includes auto, medical/dental, premises liability, and other negligence tort cases that do not fit in one of the above categories.

Torts – Cases heard at District Court that deal with an alleged injury or wrong committed either against a person or person's property by a party who either did or did not do something they were not or were supposed to do; includes product liability, intentional misconduct, employment, and other tort cases that do not fit in one of the above categories.

Probate – Cases heard at District Court that deal with the probate of a will or estate of a deceased person; includes summary administration, general administration, special administration, set asides, probate trusts, and other probate cases that do not fit in one of the above categories.

Other Civil – Cases heard at District Court that include breach of contract, civil petition for judicial review, appeals from lower courts, civil writs, and all other civil matters that do not fit in one of the above categories or case types.

General Civil – Cases heard at Justice Court that deal with recovery of money or damages where the amount does not exceed the limit of \$10,000.

Small Claims – Cases heard at Justice Court that deal with recovery of money where the amount does not exceed the limit of \$5,000.

Landlord/Tenant – Cases heard at Justice Court that deal with the exclusion of tenant for default of rent or specific categories of unlawful detainer. Formerly Summary Evictions.

Temporary Protective Orders – Cases heard at Justice Court for temporary order for protection. TPOs are counted as either domestic violence protective orders or stalking and harassment protective orders.

Reopened cases - Civil-related cases reopened or reactivated during the year from a motion or petition filed with the court.

When to Count Dispositions: A civil case is considered disposed when adjudication of the matter occurs. For statistical purposes, final adjudication is defined as the date judgment is entered.

Civil Cases Disposed – For all trial courts, civil cases are disposed by voluntary dismissal, transfer before or during trial, involuntary dismissal, judgment on arbitration award, stipulated dismissal, stipulated judgment, default judgment, and adjudication on the merits by motion to dismiss, summary judgment, bench trial, and jury trial. Additionally, in Justice Courts, temporary protective orders are disposed by involuntary dismissal, transferred before or during trial, voluntary dismissal, decision without trial or hearing, decision with hearing, and decision with trial.

FAMILY CASE TYPES

When to Count Filings: Cases are counted when the court receives an originating petition, request, or complaint.

Marriage Dissolution – Cases heard at District Court that involve either divorce or annulment.

Support/Custody – Cases heard at District Court that request maintenance of a spouse or child or a determination with regard to control, care, or maintenance of a child. Both parties must reside in Nevada.

Uniform Interstate Family Support Act – Cases heard at District Court that require maintenance of a spouse or child when one party resides in another state.

Adoptions – Cases heard at District Court that involve a request for the establishment of a new, permanent relationship of parent and child between persons not having that relationship naturally.

Paternity – Cases heard at District Court that involve paternity issues as defined by Nevada statute.

Termination of Parental Rights – Cases heard at District Court that involve termination of parental rights.

Miscellaneous Domestic Relations Case – Cases heard at District Court that involve a domestic relations issue that does not fit in one of the other family case types. Examples include name change or permission to marry.

Guardianship – Cases heard at District Court that deal with guardianship issues involving adults, minors, or trusts.

Mental Health Cases – Cases heard at District Court that deal with legal determination as to whether an individual is mentally ill or incompetent and should be placed or remain under care, custody, or treatment.

Domestic Violence Protective Orders – Cases heard at District Court for temporary order for protection when sufficient evidence exists that there has been domestic violence or the threat exists.

Reopened cases - Family-related cases reopened or reactivated during the year from a motion or petition filed with the court.

When to Count Dispositions: A family case is considered disposed when the decision is handed down and(or) the final order is filed, whichever occurs first.

Family Cases Disposed – For District Courts, family cases are disposed by involuntary dismissal, transfer, voluntary dismissal, decision without trial, decision with hearing, and decision with trial. Additionally, guardianship cases can be disposed for a person by death, reaching the age of majority, or restoration of competency; and for property by an order terminating guardianship or final accounting.

JUVENILE CASE TYPES

When to Count Filings: Cases are counted when the court receives the petition or citation.

Criminal-Type Juvenile Petitions – Cases heard at District Court that include a behavior that would be a crime if committed by an adult.

Status Petitions – Cases heard at District Court that includes petitions involving a juvenile in need of supervision. The juvenile may require guidance, treatment, or rehabilitation because of habitual truancy, habitual disobedience, being ungovernable, or behavior that is injurious or dangerous to others.

Child Abuse/Neglect Petitions – Cases heard at District Court where the behavior of someone other than the juvenile causes the court to concern itself with the well being of the juvenile. Adults charged with abuse or neglect are counted in the appropriate criminal category.

Miscellaneous Petitions – Cases heard at District Court that involve juvenile cases that do not fit in one of the other juvenile categories. An example is Petition for Emancipation.

Informal Hearing – Any hearing by a judicial officer in which no formal charge has been filed with the court.

Detention/Extradition Hearing – Any hearing requesting a juvenile to be held in detention, or continued to be held in detention, pending further court action within the same or another jurisdiction.

Protective Custody Hearing – Any hearing held to determine if the risk to a child is great enough to warrant removal, or continued removal, from their custodian.

When to Count Dispositions: A juvenile case is considered disposed when adjudication of the matter occurs.

Juvenile Cases Disposed – For District Courts, juvenile cases are disposed by transfer, certification to adult, dismissal, plea or admission, statutory termination, wardship termination, judgment satisfied, and bench trial.