

The Annual Statistical Report on Circuit, Family and Magistrate Courts

The West Virginia Court System 2016 Data



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Circuit Courts

2016 Circuit Court Criminal Case Filings

	Total	Felony	Magistrate Appeals	Misdemeanor	Other Criminal Cases
Barbour	111	107	1	3	0
Berkeley	513	183	2	14	314
Boone	139	88	0	49	2
Braxton	34	25	2	0	7
Brooke	112	90	1	1	20
Cabell	946	563	10	129	244
Calhoun	40	38	0	2	0
Clay	30	23	2	1	4
Doddridge	42	24	0	3	15
Fayette	210	180	3	5	22
Gilmer	72	26	1	2	43
Grant	50	38	0	12	0
Greenbrier	246	152	1	63	30
Hampshire	98	92	5	1	0
Hancock	153	106	4	5	38
Hardy	65	64	1	0	0
Harrison	430	267	15	8	140
Jackson	110	108	0	2	0
Jefferson	155	137	6	12	0
Kanawha	1,203	624	15	150	414
Lewis	179	100	4	5	70
Lincoln	154	102	0	8	44
Logan	174	152	0	16	6
Marion*	-	-	-	-	-
Marshall	111	102	5	4	0
Mason	136	93	0	8	35
McDowell	190	144	18	13	15
Mercer	916	359	13	13	531
Mineral	194	152	7	17	18
Mingo	157	86	0	3	68
Monongalia	371	312	8	11	40
Monroe*	-	-	-	-	-
Morgan	87	74	5	3	5
Nicholas	53	53	0	0	0
Ohio	200	102	0	1	97
Pendleton	21	19	2	0	0
Pleasants	12	10	1	1	0
Pocahontas	95	43	3	19	30
Preston	288	123	4	4	157
Putnam	331	140	16	15	160
Raleigh	999	477	7	86	429
Randolph	170	125	1	14	30
Ritchie	32	21	1	3	7
Roane	128	113	2	10	3
Summers	69	61	0	3	5
Taylor	141	93	0	5	43
Tucker	28	14	2	2	10
Tyler	49	31	1	3	14
Upshur	110	83	1	16	10
Wayne	359	129	2	15	213
Webster	15	15	0	0	0
Wetzel	64	61	2	1	0
Wirt	15	15	0	0	0
Wood	429	285	4	1	139
Wyoming	204	168	4	32	0
Total	11,240	6,792	182	794	3,472

* Due to implementation of CourtPlus, criminal data for Monroe and Marion county are unavailable for 2016.

2016 Circuit Court Civil Case Filings

	Total	Admin. Agency Appeals	Adoption	Divorce	General Civil	Guardianship	Magistrate Appeals	Mental Health	Other Civil Cases	Other Domestic Relations	Personal Safety Appeals
Barbour	157	2	10	0	104	6	5	7	23	0	0
Berkeley	1,292	7	62	1	725	48	14	221	201	0	13
Boone	443	1	25	0	217	16	6	92	78	8	0
Braxton	77	2	8	0	27	0	1	18	21	0	0
Brooke	234	2	7	0	139	5	1	49	28	0	3
Cabell	2,294	0	69	0	820	59	35	1,144	164	0	3
Calhoun	70	0	8	0	34	3	0	10	14	1	0
Clay	115	0	24	0	53	4	3	12	17	2	0
Doddridge	96	0	4	0	65	1	1	15	10	0	0
Fayette	500	0	50	0	346	22	0	38	43	0	1
Gilmer	75	0	6	0	41	2	0	10	16	0	0
Grant	85	1	2	0	46	10	3	14	5	4	0
Greenbrier	363	10	19	0	237	10	3	57	22	0	5
Hampshire	213	0	10	0	101	10	4	11	76	0	1
Hancock	270	3	13	0	162	12	4	27	49	0	0
Hardy	148	0	14	2	55	12	2	11	52	0	0
Harrison	889	1	46	0	478	23	14	237	90	0	0
Jackson	326	3	32	1	129	21	2	96	42	0	0
Jefferson	701	3	44	0	562	19	7	61	0	0	5
Kanawha	4,809	123	144	0	1,834	103	200	1,825	552	0	28
Lewis	483	0	9	0	15	4	1	342	112	0	0
Lincoln	326	0	31	0	125	21	33	41	71	0	4
Logan	486	0	37	1	319	15	3	97	14	0	0
Marion*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marshall	495	2	17	48	225	15	4	114	69	1	0
Mason	285	0	17	0	103	7	0	99	56	3	0
McDowell	328	0	16	0	133	9	6	41	123	0	0
Mercer	903	10	67	0	415	48	20	208	117	0	18
Mineral	176	1	12	0	100	5	4	3	51	0	0
Mingo	345	2	52	0	223	11	1	43	13	0	0
Monongalia	1,449	4	25	0	636	30	63	194	493	0	4
Monroe*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morgan	159	0	10	0	106	3	4	12	24	0	0
Nicholas	302	1	22	0	142	15	4	61	57	0	0
Ohio	870	5	23	0	407	7	2	294	131	0	1
Pendleton	63	0	6	0	38	3	1	3	5	7	0
Pleasants	97	0	8	0	40	4	2	15	28	0	0
Pocahontas	145	1	5	0	58	4	3	39	32	0	3
Preston	338	2	25	0	222	16	1	19	50	1	2
Putnam	593	3	43	0	315	22	5	128	76	0	1
Raleigh	1,195	10	83	1	835	29	8	166	53	10	0
Randolph	307	1	7	0	162	12	10	29	85	0	1
Ritchie	123	0	13	0	71	2	0	14	23	0	0
Roane	159	0	18	0	73	2	4	26	30	0	6
Summers	83	1	13	0	45	4	0	6	14	0	0
Taylor	122	0	8	0	70	5	0	13	25	1	0
Tucker	60	0	2	0	40	3	0	8	7	0	0
Tyler	104	1	4	7	47	6	0	18	21	0	0
Upshur	209	0	16	0	123	7	3	3	55	0	2
Wayne	431	0	87	0	204	10	6	55	65	0	4
Webster	73	1	3	0	43	4	1	5	12	4	0
Wetzel	264	2	10	19	114	7	1	87	24	0	0
Wirt	51	0	7	0	22	0	3	3	16	0	0
Wood	1,370	8	51	0	549	23	13	577	140	0	9
Wyoming	270	2	34	0	163	13	0	21	35	0	2
Total	25,821	215	1,378	80	12,358	752	511	6,739	3,630	42	116

* Due to implementation of CourtPlus, civil data for Monroe and Marion county are unavailable for 2016.

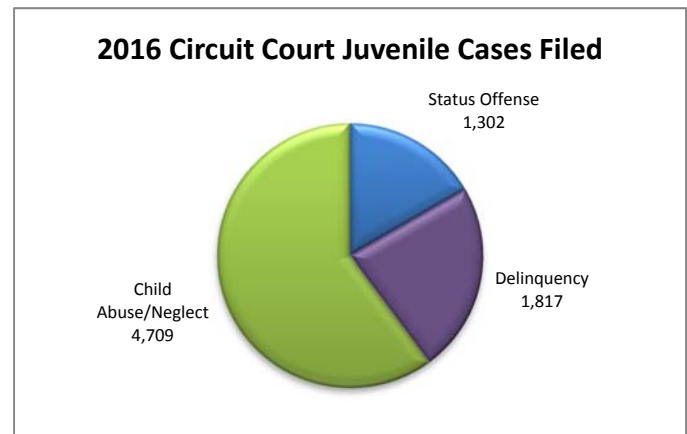
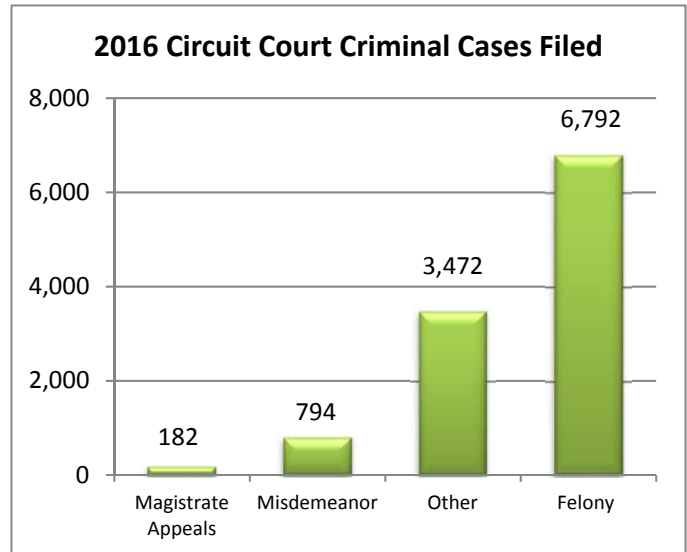
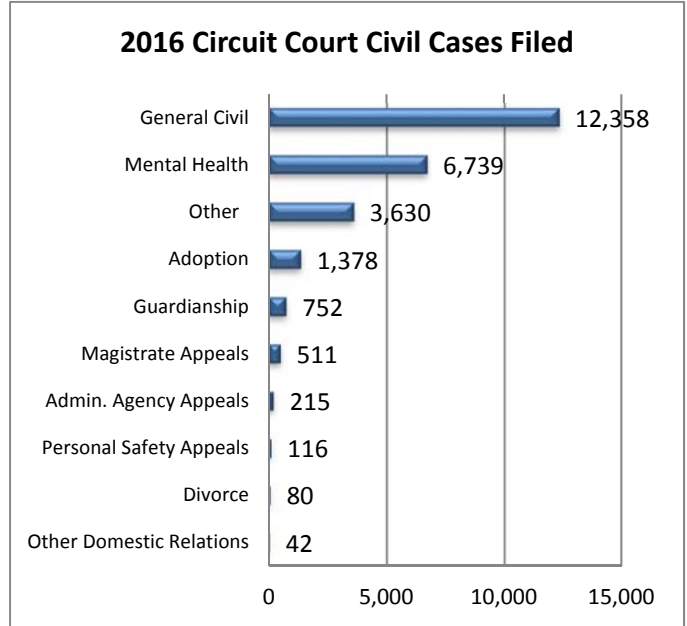
2016 Circuit Court Juvenile Case Filings

	Total	Child Neglect and Abuse	Delinquency	Status Offense
Barbour	123	108	14	1
Berkeley	403	191	142	70
Boone	223	93	77	53
Braxton	40	38	2	0
Brooke	87	42	31	14
Cabell	828	365	301	162
Calhoun	51	47	4	0
Clay	47	37	8	2
Doddridge	46	29	10	7
Fayette	99	77	20	2
Gilmer	47	37	7	3
Grant	42	19	19	4
Greenbrier	116	68	25	23
Hampshire	149	102	23	24
Hancock	161	88	50	23
Hardy	49	27	10	12
Harrison	240	111	60	69
Jackson	34	34	0	0
Jefferson	166	53	95	18
Kanawha	732	651	55	26
Lewis	25	22	2	1
Lincoln	164	74	28	62
Logan	132	60	59	13
Marion*	-	-	-	-
Marshall	81	30	47	4
Mason	60	32	8	20
McDowell	141	93	40	8
Mercer	471	288	80	103
Mineral	8	6	1	1
Mingo	144	86	16	42
Monongalia	154	95	20	39
Monroe*	-	-	-	-
Morgan	59	39	13	7
Nicholas	163	124	16	23
Ohio	208	164	29	15
Pendleton	29	1	11	17
Pleasants	41	15	12	14
Pocahontas	38	22	11	5
Preston	113	90	11	12
Putnam	191	65	33	93
Raleigh	546	219	165	162
Randolph	149	111	25	13
Ritchie	43	36	7	0
Roane	85	58	21	6
Summers	39	22	11	6
Taylor	132	112	15	5
Tucker	13	2	9	2
Tyler	31	25	6	0
Upshur	30	12	16	2
Wayne	247	162	38	47
Webster	107	103	3	1
Wetzel	37	7	27	3
Wirt	22	18	3	1
Wood	316	232	61	23
Wyoming	126	67	20	39
Total	7,828	4,709	1,817	1,302

* Due to implementation of CourtPlus, juvenile data for Monroe and Marion county are unavailable for 2016.

2016 Total Circuit Court Case Filings

	2016 Filings	Civil	Criminal	Juvenile
Barbour	391	157	111	123
Berkeley	2,208	1,292	513	403
Boone	805	443	139	223
Braxton	151	77	34	40
Brooke	433	234	112	87
Cabell	4,068	2,294	946	828
Calhoun	161	70	40	51
Clay	192	115	30	47
Doddridge	184	96	42	46
Fayette	809	500	210	99
Gilmer	194	75	72	47
Grant	177	85	50	42
Greenbrier	725	363	246	116
Hampshire	460	213	98	149
Hancock	584	270	153	161
Hardy	262	148	65	49
Harrison	1,559	889	430	240
Jackson	470	326	110	34
Jefferson	1,022	701	155	166
Kanawha	6,744	4,809	1,203	732
Lewis	687	483	179	25
Lincoln	644	326	154	164
Logan	792	486	174	132
Marion*	0	0		
Marshall	687	495	111	81
Mason	481	285	136	60
McDowell	659	328	190	141
Mercer	2,290	903	916	471
Mineral	378	176	194	8
Mingo	646	345	157	144
Monongalia	1,974	1,449	371	154
Monroe*	0	0		
Morgan	305	159	87	59
Nicholas	518	302	53	163
Ohio	1,278	870	200	208
Pendleton	113	63	21	29
Pleasants	150	97	12	41
Pocahontas	278	145	95	38
Preston	739	338	288	113
Putnam	1,115	593	331	191
Raleigh	2,740	1,195	999	546
Randolph	626	307	170	149
Ritchie	198	123	32	43
Roane	372	159	128	85
Summers	191	83	69	39
Taylor	395	122	141	132
Tucker	101	60	28	13
Tyler	184	104	49	31
Upshur	349	209	110	30
Wayne	1,037	431	359	247
Webster	195	73	15	107
Wetzel	365	264	64	37
Wirt	88	51	15	22
Wood	2,115	1,370	429	316
Wyoming	600	270	204	126
Total**	44,889	25,821	11,240	7,828



* Due to implementation of CourtPlus, civil, criminal, and juvenile data for Monroe and Marion county are unavailable for 2016.
 **Mass litigation filings handled by the Mass Litigation Panel are not included in the 2016 filing totals. Please refer to the Mass Litigation section of this report for statistical information on mass litigation cases.

Circuit Court Summary

As of 2016, fifty-five counties divided into thirty-one circuits with seventy judges make up the State of West Virginia. The circuits vary in size; one has seven judges while nine have one judge. While every county has a courthouse where a judge presides, a single circuit can be comprised of up to four counties.

Circuit Judges must have practiced law for at least five years. They serve eight-year terms.

Circuit courts are trial courts of record. They have jurisdiction with limited exceptions over all civil cases in which more than \$2,500 is at issue, all felonies and misdemeanors, and proceedings in habeas corpus, mandamus, quo warranto certiorari, and probation.

Circuit courts receive appeals from family courts, magistrate courts, municipal courts, and all administrative agencies except the Division of Workers' Compensation.

In 2016, there were 44,889 cases filed in West Virginia's circuit courts, a 1.7 percent decrease from 2015 cases filed. Due to implementation of CourtPlus, civil, criminal, and juvenile data for Monroe and Marion county are unavailable for 2016. To calculate an accurate percent decrease, Marion and Monroe case counts were excluded from the 2015 statewide total. Of the 2016 cases, 25,821 were civil case filings (about 58 percent), 11,240 were criminal case filings (about 25 percent), and 7,828 were juvenile case filings (about 17 percent).

Child Abuse and Neglect Overlap Cases

Types of petitions filed:	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Juvenile Administrative Order (JAA)	414	439	420	466	458
Juvenile Administrative Order where Mandamus was issued (JAM)	4	1	1	4	1
Family Infant Guardianship (FIG)	1,470	1,333	1,288	1,274	1,116
Circuit Court Infant Guardianship (CIG)	542	498	515	486	418
Circuit Court Infant Guardianship Removed (CIGR)	96	96	106	113	91

“Overlap” cases are cases originating in family court that indirectly involve some allegations of child abuse and neglect and are transferred and handled in circuit court.

- **Juvenile Administrative Orders (JAA):** A family court judge who suspects child abuse and/or neglect in a pending case issues a written referral to a Child Protective Services Office and sends copies to the circuit court and the prosecuting attorney. A circuit judge then issues a JAA directing child protective services to assess the referral and make a written investigation report to the circuit court within the timeframe specified within the JAA, typically forty-five days.
- **Juvenile Administrative Order where mandamus was issued (JAM):** If the written report is not filed within the time frame specified within the juvenile administrative order, or if the report indicates that filing a child abuse and neglect petition is not necessary and the circuit judge disagrees, the circuit judge may treat the family court referral as a petition for a writ of mandamus.
- **Family Infant Guardianship (FIG):** Originating in family court, a third party other than the parents may request to be the guardian of the child.
- **Circuit Court Infant Guardianship (CIG):** Originating in circuit court, a third party other than the parents may request to be the guardian of the child.
- **Circuit Court Infant Guardianship Removed (CIGR):** Originating in family court when the family court judge suspects there has been child abuse and neglect, the family court judge will submit a written referral to child protective services and the guardian case is removed to circuit court.

Electronic Filing and Service in Mass Litigation

As reported by the Mass Litigation Manager

From January 2016 through December 2016 in all Mass Litigation cases subject to electronic filing and service, 93,255 documents were e-filed, and 2,939,588 documents were e-served. In order to capture all work performed in the three circuit court clerks' offices handling Mass Litigation, these statistics include items rejected in the clerk review process as well as orders that do not go through the clerk review process.

During 2016, there were 598,467 pages electronically filed in all Mass Litigation cases subject to electronic filing and service. This translates to more than 249 boxes of paper, based on 2,400 pages per box. From December 2008, when electronic filing and service was first implemented in certain Mass Litigation cases, through the end of December 2016, there were 650,955 documents filed electronically and 4,063,749 pages filed. This translates to over 1,693 boxes of paper.

From January 2016 through December 2016, 6,825 orders were entered in Mass Litigation cases subject to electronic filing and service. This includes bench orders entered by the judge but filed by a circuit clerk or attorney. The following is a breakdown of orders by each Mass Litigation subject to electronic filing and service.

Litigation	Jan-Dec 2016
Alderson Broaddus University Asbestos	2
Asbestos	6,633
Carbon Monoxide	38
Float-Sink	4
Gavin Landfill	16
LPG Land	2
Marcellus Shale	33
Mingo County Coal Slurry	5
Tobacco	10
Water Contamination	10
Zoloft	72
TOTAL	6,825

Family Courts

2016 Family Court Domestic Case Filings

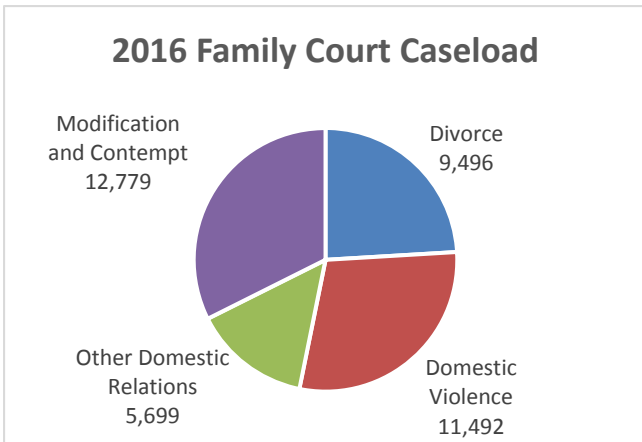
	Total Filings	Divorce	Domestic Violence	Other Domestic Relations	Total	Contempt	Modification
Barbour	264	102	114	48	151	83	68
Berkeley	1,465	529	449	487	607	268	339
Boone	436	164	153	119	180	83	97
Braxton	96	26	46	24	65	23	42
Brooke	272	104	94	74	40	17	23
Cabell	1,452	556	624	272	684	304	380
Calhoun	121	60	32	29	57	24	33
Clay	170	74	73	23	95	38	57
Doddridge	92	42	32	18	45	25	20
Fayette	655	232	247	176	533	263	270
Gilmer	93	40	39	14	43	23	20
Grant	173	67	80	26	124	51	73
Greenbrier	520	168	247	105	240	173	67
Hampshire	282	96	68	118	143	54	89
Hancock	375	124	142	109	39	8	31
Hardy	199	77	80	42	151	64	87
Harrison	915	300	402	213	470	215	255
Jackson	453	196	189	68	168	80	88
Jefferson	634	239	217	178	344	151	193
Kanawha	3,566	1,007	1,983	576	1,507	812	695
Lewis	204	93	57	54	168	106	62
Lincoln	365	140	151	74	784	595	189
Logan	786	262	394	130	420	182	238
Marion*	-	-	-	-	174	73	101
Marshall	369	124	134	111	28	4	24
Mason	437	165	180	92	55	30	25
McDowell	400	133	173	94	272	141	131
Mercer	1,495	460	744	291	673	387	286
Mineral	377	131	127	119	217	97	120
Mingo	611	221	243	147	350	122	228
Monongalia	989	341	434	214	408	174	234
Monroe*	-	-	-	-	99	67	32
Morgan	177	72	62	43	110	47	63
Nicholas	433	181	184	68	190	91	99
Ohio	444	156	160	128	165	88	77
Pendleton	64	30	22	12	39	18	21
Pleasants	111	36	51	24	11	4	7
Pocahontas	112	38	49	25	120	82	38
Preston	532	166	271	95	221	103	118
Putnam	751	309	306	136	180	76	104
Raleigh	1,191	484	566	141	628	297	331
Randolph	519	171	251	97	198	81	117
Ritchie	141	59	51	31	76	40	36
Roane	227	106	68	53	160	73	87
Summers	189	77	69	43	143	73	70
Taylor	193	103	50	40	104	30	74
Tucker	67	30	23	14	38	15	23
Tyler	119	43	52	24	3	1	2
Upshur	322	133	104	85	102	40	62
Wayne	477	239	145	93	73	41	32
Webster	141	70	0	71	120	77	43
Wetzel	188	57	79	52	3	2	1
Wirt	85	30	46	9	27	15	12
Wood	1,546	492	740	314	377	179	198
Wyoming	392	141	195	56	357	135	222
Grand Total	26,687	9,496	11,492	5,699	12,779	6,345	6,434

* Due to implementation of CourtPlus, data for Monroe and Marion county are unavailable for 2016.

2016 Family Court Marriages Performed by County

County	Total Marriages	County	Total Marriages	County	Total Marriages
Barbour	18	Kanawha	11	Preston	27
Berkeley	78	Lewis	0	Putnam	0
Boone	0	Lincoln	0	Raleigh	0
Braxton	0	Logan	22	Randolph	16
Brooke	2	Marion	0	Ritchie	0
Cabell	55	Marshall	8	Roane	0
Calhoun	0	Mason	26	Summers	0
Clay	3	McDowell	0	Taylor	5
Doddridge	0	Mercer	6	Tucker	0
Fayette	0	Mineral	0	Tyler	3
Gilmer	0	Mingo	21	Upshur	0
Grant	10	Monongalia	81	Wayne	0
Greenbrier	0	Monroe	0	Webster	0
Hampshire	0	Morgan	0	Wetzel	3
Hancock	5	Nicholas	52	Wirt	4
Hardy	8	Ohio	5	Wood	0
Harrison	124	Pendleton	1	Wyoming	0
Jackson	3	Pleasants	0	Grand total	647
Jefferson	50	Pocahontas	0		

Figure 1



Family Court Summary

West Virginia has forty-five family court judges in twenty-seven family court circuits. To serve, family court judges must have practiced law for at least five years. Their terms are eight years.

Family courts have jurisdiction over divorce, annulment, separate maintenance, paternity, grandparent visitation, name change, infant guardianship, child custody, and family support proceedings, except those incidental to child abuse and neglect. Family court judges also hold final hearings in civil domestic relations and may perform marriages.

In 2016, there were 26,687 new cases filed in family court in West Virginia, a 7.7 percent decrease from 2015 cases filed. Due to implementation of CourtPlus, data for Monroe and Marion county are unavailable for 2016. To calculate an accurate percent decrease, Marion and Monroe case counts were excluded from the 2015 statewide total. Of the cases filed, 11,492 were domestic violence, 9,496 were divorces, and 5,699 were other domestic relations. There were also 12,779 modifications and contempt proceedings in reopened cases this year that were not counted as new cases filed. Details seen in *Figure 1*.

In 2016, 647 weddings were held in family courts. Details can be seen in the above table.

Family court judges can refer divorcing parents to mediation and parent education and refer children for guardian *ad litem* services. Details can be seen in *Figure 2*.

Figure 2

West Virginians Served by Supreme Court–Supported Family Visitation Centers Grant Cycle 2016	
Category	Number
Total Clients Served.....	862
Fathers.....	402
Mothers.....	421
Grandparent / Legal Guardian....	39
Children Involved.....	662
Supervised Visitation.....	535
Neutral Drop-off.....	337
<i>Total number of clients served = fathers + mothers + grandparent/legal guardian</i>	

Magistrate Court

2016 Magistrate Court Civil Case Filings

	Total	Small Claims	Personal Safety Petitions	Domestic Violence	
				EPO	TEPO
Barbour	298	176	8	114	0
Berkeley	4,887	3,956	193	736	2
Boone	373	180	27	165	1
Braxton	238	163	0	74	1
Brooke	344	199	38	107	0
Cabell	3,911	3,142	129	636	4
Calhoun	157	121	3	33	0
Clay	181	106	2	73	0
Doddridge	147	86	27	34	0
Fayette	782	509	2	261	10
Gilmer	145	99	4	42	0
Grant	257	148	19	89	1
Greenbrier	1,041	653	94	291	3
Hampshire	682	612	1	69	0
Hancock	539	368	17	153	1
Hardy	388	307	0	81	0
Harrison	2,079	1,599	8	467	5
Jackson	782	474	83	225	0
Jefferson	1,697	1,354	79	262	2
Kanawha	6,024	3,175	673	2,175	1
Lewis	830	762	7	61	0
Lincoln	342	108	63	170	1
Logan	1,024	347	275	396	6
Marion	1,293	927	29	335	2
Marshall	633	477	19	136	1
Mason	481	244	45	191	1
McDowell	384	129	83	172	0
Mercer	2,281	1,216	268	797	0
Mineral	544	342	51	151	0
Mingo	486	172	75	239	0
Monongalia	2,886	2,226	100	559	1
Monroe	289	145	41	103	0
Morgan	741	651	8	82	0
Nicholas	423	228	5	188	2
Ohio	1,057	833	35	187	2
Pendleton	128	105	1	22	0
Pleasants	188	136	0	51	1
Pocahontas	264	203	12	49	0
Preston	887	557	40	289	1
Putnam	898	493	36	365	4
Raleigh	1,834	1,132	15	686	1
Randolph	1,021	585	85	351	0
Ritchie	204	152	1	50	1
Roane	324	215	10	99	0
Summers	152	83	1	68	0
Taylor	315	259	1	55	0
Tucker	170	131	14	25	0
Tyler	152	84	14	54	0
Upshur	577	432	12	133	0
Wayne	723	492	42	189	0
Webster	116	56	10	50	0
Wetzel	228	145	3	80	0
Wirt	124	76	1	47	0
Wood	3,299	2,266	219	811	3
Wyoming	357	127	27	203	0
Total	50,607	33,963	3,055	13,531	58

2016 Magistrate Court Criminal Case Filings

	Total	Worthless Check	Felony		Misdemeanor		
			Motor Vehicle	Other	Motor Vehicle	DNR	Other
Barbour	1,573	279	11	169	538	44	532
Berkeley	9,696	58	75	1,009	5,598	38	2,918
Boone	3,203	6	12	342	1,950	59	834
Braxton	2,467	51	9	212	1,502	33	660
Brooke	2,741	61	15	144	2,077	19	425
Cabell	9,015	279	64	1,167	3,887	98	3,520
Calhoun	664	46	3	60	390	21	144
Clay	1,053	108	10	70	570	34	261
Doddridge	860	8	1	38	679	27	107
Fayette	4,517	92	29	559	2,505	44	1,288
Gilmer	501	43	2	52	225	11	168
Grant	1,196	70	4	101	477	38	506
Greenbrier	2,231	288	16	236	884	69	738
Hampshire	1,887	85	9	167	1,101	45	480
Hancock	1,596	22	15	160	973	21	405
Hardy	2,383	193	11	173	1,499	43	464
Harrison	4,755	272	48	569	2,429	62	1,375
Jackson	3,362	80	26	236	2,283	69	668
Jefferson	3,666	74	31	400	1,634	99	1,428
Kanawha	16,699	196	241	2,703	8,544	101	4,914
Lewis	1,993	102	12	147	1,136	44	552
Lincoln	4,545	16	22	182	3,775	61	489
Logan	5,113	79	30	458	2,988	85	1,473
Marion	3,136	103	22	444	1,677	30	860
Marshall	1,826	25	13	182	863	34	709
Mason	3,268	40	5	157	2,335	160	571
McDowell	1,786	14	16	248	713	34	761
Mercer	6,644	187	39	720	3,976	74	1,648
Mineral	2,061	38	7	158	1,129	31	698
Mingo	2,587	8	19	286	1,491	75	708
Monongalia	6,975	60	42	640	3,476	96	2,661
Monroe	615	14	1	62	356	25	157
Morgan	1,968	36	2	89	1,359	24	458
Nicholas	3,586	211	7	700	1,631	126	911
Ohio	4,660	97	18	326	3,025	27	1,167
Pendleton	519	30	3	39	308	36	103
Pleasants	686	65	1	38	446	15	121
Pocahontas	957	134	5	105	432	34	247
Preston	3,412	152	9	166	2,422	70	593
Putnam	4,653	152	28	218	3,526	32	697
Raleigh	8,921	282	52	1,023	4,922	67	2,575
Randolph	3,396	650	12	284	1,620	76	754
Ritchie	1,456	44	11	37	1,162	36	166
Roane	1,019	25	10	148	386	32	418
Summers	733	48	4	62	344	31	244
Taylor	1,369	37	2	107	991	22	210
Tucker	1,045	105	0	44	750	24	122
Tyler	547	63	1	45	295	46	97
Upshur	2,034	185	15	229	931	53	621
Wayne	2,177	44	11	254	1,277	90	501
Webster	926	18	6	69	448	33	352
Wetzel	1,324	68	4	85	803	11	353
Wirt	282	14	2	18	125	40	83
Wood	6,570	98	54	638	3,248	117	2,415
Wyoming	2,042	77	10	397	955	67	536
Total	168,896	5,632	1,127	17,372	95,066	2,833	46,866

2016 Magistrate Court Juvenile Cases and Special Proceedings

	Juvenile				Special Proceedings			
	Total	Motor Vehicle	DNR	Other	Total	Mental Health	Abuse and Neglect	Juvenile
Barbour	17	6	8	3	20	8	0	12
Berkeley	109	99	0	10	0	-	-	-
Boone	39	13	16	10	0	0	0	0
Braxton	16	12	2	2	8	0	5	3
Brooke	63	46	0	17	12	0	12	0
Cabell	50	27	16	7	306	5	0	301
Calhoun	5	4	0	1	28	6	18	4
Clay	7	6	1	0	13	1	8	4
Doddridge	12	10	0	2	47	1	29	17
Fayette	39	28	1	10	17	10	4	3
Gilmer	14	2	0	12	16	2	4	10
Grant	24	9	1	14	11	3	6	2
Greenbrier	23	11	6	6	56	0	19	37
Hampshire	65	36	0	29	50	0	26	24
Hancock	22	15	0	7	51	0	0	51
Hardy	33	26	1	6	15	1	2	12
Harrison	58	19	2	37	82	0	0	82
Jackson	35	25	7	3	0	-	-	-
Jefferson	40	25	5	10	215	0	8	207
Kanawha	69	47	0	22	381	0	0	381
Lewis	31	16	4	11	4	1	0	3
Lincoln	51	44	3	4	107	7	0	100
Logan	47	18	2	27	26	3	3	20
Marion	31	29	0	2	77	0	50	27
Marshall	37	18	1	18	0	0	0	0
Mason	87	43	13	31	0	0	0	0
McDowell	12	1	0	11	115	41	11	63
Mercer	46	41	2	3	0	0	0	0
Mineral	33	31	0	2	11	1	9	1
Mingo	23	13	6	4	78	7	4	67
Monongalia	87	29	2	56	5	5	0	0
Monroe	32	14	1	17	5	0	0	5
Morgan	23	19	0	4	26	-	1	25
Nicholas	35	24	7	4	39	3	30	6
Ohio	66	64	1	1	103	0	74	29
Pendleton	21	21	0	0	22	1	0	21
Pleasants	12	7	2	3	27	4	0	23
Pocahontas	41	31	2	8	35	14	6	15
Preston	34	24	4	6	0	0	0	0
Putnam	51	45	6	0	0	0	0	0
Raleigh	76	51	0	25	427	127	18	282
Randolph	33	31	2	0	0	0	0	0
Ritchie	13	6	1	6	26	3	14	9
Roane	32	7	5	20	65	14	12	39
Summers	9	3	6	0	17	0	16	1
Taylor	29	27	0	2	32	14	0	18
Tucker	7	4	0	3	1	0	0	1
Tyler	18	14	1	3	3	0	2	1
Upshur	31	18	1	12	28	0	9	19
Wayne	32	21	4	7	17	13	2	2
Webster	9	4	4	1	27	5	18	4
Wetzel	17	15	2	0	2	0	1	1
Wirt	42	5	27	10	16	0	13	3
Wood	89	47	5	37	24	0	24	0
Wyoming	4	4	0	0	139	9	30	100
Total	1,981	1,255	180	546	2,832	309	488	2,035

Changes in Magistrate Court Reporting

In 2016, all counties officially started using the Unified Judicial Application (UJA), case management system, allowing the Court to report more case type detail. More in-depth reporting of cases has also allowed the Court to identify discrepancies with case classification. Examples of case type changes are as follows:

- **Definition of a Case:** For juvenile, civil, and domestic cases, consider the filing of an original petition or complaint as a case. For criminal cases, consider the filing of the original indictment or information against one individual as a case. Consider all criminal charges involved in a single incident as one case.
- Criminal cases were previously reported by charge rather than case counts. Charge counts are a count of every charge within a single case making previous years filing counts seem higher.
- **Definition of a Special Proceeding:** Counts of activity in magistrate court where the court of record is the Circuit Court. A Magistrate's authority to hear said cases is established by the following code: Mental Health- WV code 27-5-1(b), Abuse and Neglect – WV code § 49-4-303(2), and Juvenile – WV code § 49-1-207.
- Felony, Domestic Violence (EPO & TEPO), and Personal Safety Petitions were previously reported under special proceedings. It was decided these should be reported as part of the Magistrate court caseload due to the magistrate court being the court of record.

Magistrate Court Summary

There are 158 magistrates in West Virginia. There are at least two magistrates in every county and ten in the largest county, Kanawha.

Current Magistrates run for four-year terms in nonpartisan elections. Magistrates have jurisdiction over civil cases in which the financial amount in dispute is less than \$10,000. They hear misdemeanor cases and conduct preliminary examinations in felony cases. In criminal cases they issue and record affidavits, complaints, arrest warrants, and search warrants. They set bail and make decisions concerning proposed plea agreements, the collection of courts' costs, cash bonds, and fines. In some counties where there are no mental hygiene commissioners, the chief judge can designate a magistrate to handle all or part of probable cause involuntary hospitalization cases. However, Magistrates cannot handle final commitment or guardianship cases.

