Ohio Court Filings

71% of incoming cases were filed in municipal or county courts in 2025

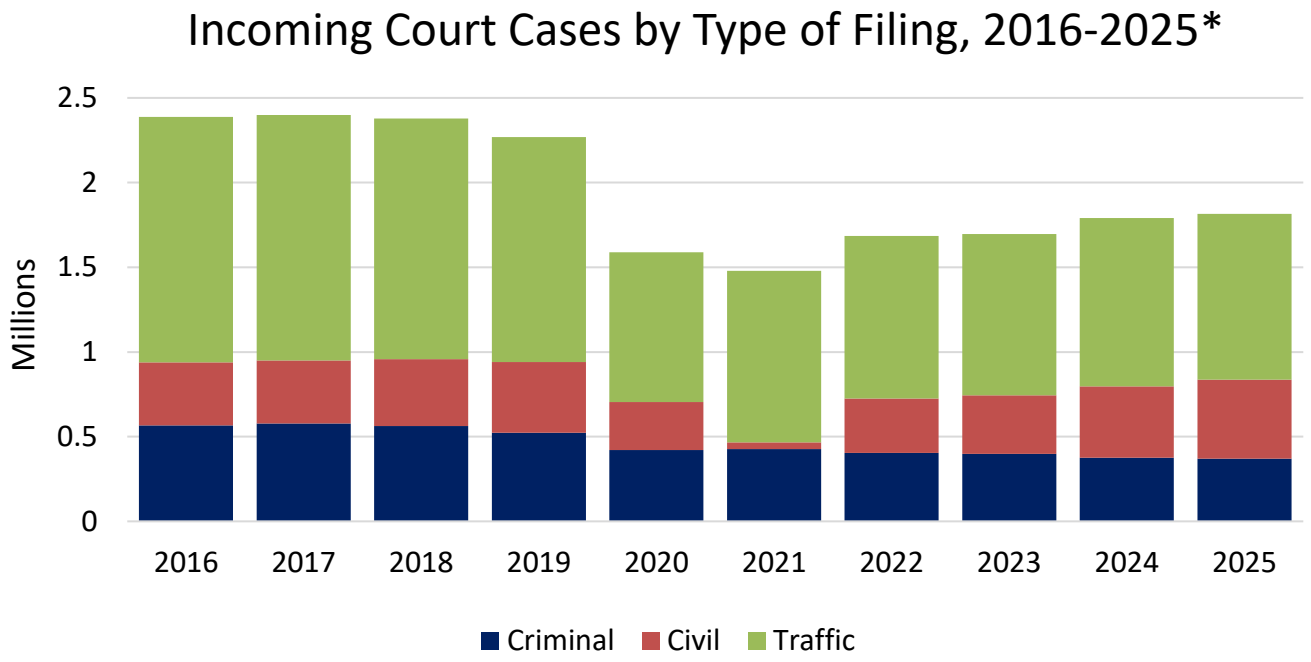
Incoming Court Cases Filed by Type of Court in 2025*		
Type of Court	**Total Incoming Cases**	**% of Total Incoming Cases**
Supreme Court	**1,716**	**0.1%**
Courts of Appeals	**8,460**	**0.3%**
Court of Claims	**1,056**	**0.0%**
Common Pleas	**565,397**	**22.0%**
General Division	212,026	8.3%
Juvenile Division	167,922	6.5%
Domestic Relations Division	93,267	3.6%
Probate Division	92,182	3.6%
Municipal and County	**1,814,725**	**70.7%**
Mayor's Courts	**176,061**	**6.9%**
Total	**2,567,415**	**100.0%**

*Incoming cases include new cases, transferred cases, and reactivated cases. Reactivated cases are those that were previously placed on inactive reporting status and later reopened.

Source: Ohio Supreme Court

- In 2025, there were 2.6 million incoming cases in Ohio courts.
- Compared to 2024, overall incoming case filings increased by 8,360 statewide, or 0.3%.
- Approximately 1.8 million of those cases, or 71%, were filed in municipal and county courts.
- 565,397, or 22%, were filed in Ohio's courts of common pleas.
- 176,061, or nearly 7%, were filed in mayor's courts which are not courts of record but are authorized to hear cases involving violations of local ordinances and state traffic laws. Those convicted in a mayor's court may appeal their conviction to the municipal or county court having jurisdiction over those cases.

54% of incoming cases in municipal and county courts in 2025 were traffic cases



*Incoming cases include new cases, transferred cases, and reactivated cases. Reactivated cases are those that were previously placed on inactive reporting status and later reopened.

Source: Ohio Supreme Court

- In 2025, 1.8 million new, transferred, or reactivated cases were filed in municipal and county courts.
  - 977,552 of those cases, or 53.9%, were traffic cases.
  - 467,036, or 25.7%, were civil cases.
  - 370,137, or 20.4%, were criminal cases.
- Municipal and county courts have jurisdiction over felonies (preliminary matters only), misdemeanors, traffic (including OVI), and civil cases involving amounts of $15,000 or less including small claims. In 2025, there were 131 municipal courts with 216 judges and 30 county courts with 32 judges in Ohio.
- The COVID-19 pandemic had significant impacts on the courts, with caseload volumes still below pre-pandemic averages. From 2020-2025, the annual average of incoming cases was 1.7 million, about 26% below the 2016-2019 annual average of 2.3 million.