

2001 REPORT

OF THE ARIZONA JUDICIAL BRANCH



Final Report for the Term of
Chief Justice Thomas A. Zlaket
1997-2002



On behalf of the Arizona Judicial Branch, it is my pleasure to present our 2001 Annual Report. This year's report is the fifth and final one I will present as Chief Justice. It has been a remarkable experience to lead this branch of government and I am thankful for the opportunity. This annual report documents the progress the Judicial Branch has made toward implementing our strategic agenda, *Justice 2002*. But the credit for these accomplishments belongs to the dedicated men and women who serve in our branch of government, and the supporters of our justice system across Arizona.

Together, we have confronted many challenges. I am particularly proud of the improvements made in our juvenile detention facilities. We have gone from overcrowded, deplorable buildings to modern complexes that are safe, secure environments for children.

Together, we have streamlined dependency cases so children no longer languish in our court system. Through our Model Court dependency case reengineering program, we have slashed waiting periods in dependency cases by weeks, prevented needless delays, and involved family members earlier in the process.

We have brought technology into our courts to make them more efficient for users and accountable to

Justice 2002 — A Strategic Agenda

- *Protecting Children, Families and Communities*
 - *Providing Access to Swift, Fair Justice*
 - *Connecting with the Community*
 - *Being Accountable*

This annual report is the final summary of the Judicial Branch's activity under the direction of Chief Justice Thomas Zlaket. For the last five years, the Judiciary has focused on achieving the four goals of *Justice 2002*, Chief Justice Zlaket's strategic agenda for the courts. These four goals are: Protecting Children, Families, and Communities; Providing Access to Swift, Fair Justice; Connecting with the Community; and, Being Accountable. The success of the Judicial Branch in improving the administration of justice in these areas has brought national praise to both Chief Justice Zlaket and the court system in Arizona. The reforms nurtured by *Justice 2002* in Arizona will leave a lasting impression on the terrain of justice in Arizona.

Protecting Children, Families and Communities

Model Court

Chief Justice Zlaket has said, "Short of execution, the greatest use of government power is the removal a child--an abused, neglected or dependent child--from a parent. Whenever such action is warranted, cases need to be handled faster and better. These children have committed no crime. They have done nothing wrong. They deserve our best efforts to ensure that they do not languish in foster homes while the courts plod slowly along the path to resolution." In response to this issue and as part of its strategic agenda, the Judiciary embarked on an effort to reform dependency case management. Model Court, a reengineered case processing system for dependency proceedings, was enacted with the help of the state

juvenile detention centers. He later remarked, "If a society can be judged by how it treats its children, we were then failing miserably. I was truly ashamed by what I saw, and determined to change the deplorable conditions existing in these detention centers."

Change came in the form of the statewide Juvenile Detention Enhancement Project. With the help of many key legislators, judges, the Governor, Boards of Supervisors, county personnel and court staff, \$171 million in state, federal, and county funds have been committed to provide safe, secure juvenile detention facilities. The project has led to new or renovated juvenile detention facilities in 14 of 15 counties in Arizona.

Accompanying these new facilities are operational guidelines for improving the quality of care for juveniles in the custody of the juvenile court. These improved guidelines and facilities represent the Judicial Branch's commitment to quality care and service for every juvenile in the custody of the courts.

Superior Court Facilities

Through the efforts of Presiding Judges, Superior Court facilities, including juvenile court centers, have been built, remodeled or are under construction in Yuma, Pima, Apache, Cochise, Pinal, Graham, Coconino, Mohave and Maricopa Counties. These investments in our justice system were necessary to bring courts closer to population centers, provide the public with safe facilities in which to conduct

taxpayers. We have continued to improve our jury system. We have established a new Judicial Branch employee code of conduct, published a benchbook on domestic violence to bring uniformity to how these cases are processed, and expanded the number of operational reviews our courts receive. We have implemented an Elder Law Hotline that offers free legal assistance to Arizonans age 60 or older, dramatically increased the collection of fines and restitution payments and held dialogues with citizens in their communities so we can learn how we can serve the people of Arizona better.

We also have invited almost 2,000 members of the public to serve on committees, commissions and as volunteers within the courts to help us shape policy that provides Arizonans with an even more responsive judicial system.

I am proud of the work we have done, proud of what we have accomplished, and proud to have worked with the people who bring justice to our state. As I pass the gavel to Vice Chief Justice Jones, who will become our next Chief Justice, I do so with the knowledge that the same committed people who achieved so much during the last five years will ensure that the Judicial Branch will continue to flourish during the tenure of his capable leadership.

legislature to

"Short of execution, the greatest use of government power is the removal of a child..."

address and better serve the children and families who rely on Arizona's courts.

Now the standard for processing dependency cases throughout Arizona, Model Court has reduced the time necessary for moving a dependent child through the court system in half. It has reduced the wait for a Preliminary Protective Hearing from 90 to seven days, eliminated unnecessary continuances, and involved extended family members from the beginning of the process.

Juvenile Detention Enhancement Project

Shortly after assuming the office, Chief Justice Zlaket was taken on a tour of

their business, and equip court houses with cost saving technology. These new facilities now stand ready to provide justice services for decades to come.

Collecting Restitution & Fees

"If sanctions are not enforced, if financial obligations to victims and others are ignored, then court orders will become nothing more than worthless pieces of paper. We will not allow that to happen." This statement by Chief Justice Zlaket led to increased enforcement of court ordered sanctions. The effort has increased restitution paid to the victims of crime, and helped defray the costs of our court system.

Enforcement of court sanctions during Chief Justice Zlaket's term has led to: a 52 percent increase in work service hours completed by adult probationers; a 106 percent increase in probation fee collections (from \$4.8 million in FY 1996 to \$9.9 million in FY 2001); a 112 percent increase in reimbursement

collections (from \$485,493 in FY 1996 to more than \$1 million in FY 2001); a 130 percent increase in the collection of fines/surcharges (from \$3.6 million in FY 1996 to \$8.3 million in FY 2001); and a 142 percent increase in restitution collections (from \$5.2 million in FY 1996 to \$12.6 million in FY 2001).

Drug Court

Drug Courts play a critical role in promoting *Justice 2002's* strategic goal of Protecting Children, Families, and Communities. To reduce recidivism in drug related offenses, Drug Courts have been established in a number of Arizona counties. These courts emphasize a combination of treatment and court supervision designed to change the behavior of drug offenders. By concentrating on the future conduct of these offenders, Drug Courts aim to make our communities safer. Successful Drug Courts report that their programs are having a tremendously positive impact on the lives of drug abusers and their families. Successful participants in the Drug Court program benefit Arizona by working, paying restitution and taxes, and allowing prison space to be used for offenders who do not belong in our communities. Arizona Drug Court/ DUI programs boast 1,105 successful graduates to date, with another 1,095 individuals currently participating in programs.

Private Fiduciary Program

Children, the elderly, and incapacitated individuals often rely on private fiduciaries to manage their affairs. Three years ago, the Administrative Office of the Courts implemented a groundbreaking program to help ensure Arizona's vulnerable citizens have trained, certified individuals managing their financial affairs, medical decisions,

Providing Access to Swift, Fair Justice

Reengineering Criminal Case Processing

When Chief Justice Zlaket included Providing Access to Swift, Fair Justice in *Justice 2002*, one of his first challenges was to address the long delays being experienced in processing felony cases in Arizona courts. As he often said, "Justice delayed is justice denied, and we will have justice in Arizona's courts." Prior to the reengineering of criminal case processing, some cases were taking 300, 600 and, in extreme cases, more than 1,000 days to trial. This was unfair to victims, defendants, taxpayers, and every citizen who relies on our criminal justice system. Through aggressive leadership and the coordination of resources, Arizona courts have made great progress toward meeting the goal of processing 90 percent of criminal cases within 100 days of filing.

Improving Attorney Oversight

Several projects of *Justice 2002* focus on improving the attorney discipline system, providing greater regulation of attorneys from other states who practice in Arizona's courts and ensuring the solvency of the client protection fund.

When reengineering of the attorney discipline system began, the serious attorney discipline cases were taking three to four years to resolve. Through the implementation of new court rules, an increase in resources for State Bar staff responsible for investigating complaints, and countless hours by voluntary hearing officers and the members of the Disciplinary Commission, the time required for the processing of attorney complaints has been dramatically reduced.

"The Supreme Court regulates the practice of law in Arizona. The vast majority of lawyers do great work and act professionally. Some do not. We must have a discipline process that produces a just

reimburse client victims whose attorneys have misappropriated their funds. The Judicial Branch will continue to safeguard the Fund in order to provide future client victims with financial relief.

Technology Drives Innovation

During most of his time on the Supreme Court, Chief Justice Zlaket has been shaping the direction of technology in Arizona's courts. Before becoming Chief Justice, he served as chair of the Supreme Court Commission on Technology. Chief Justice Zlaket decided that, "No longer can we as a branch of government justify spending tax dollars on separate and independent local court automated systems that are incompatible with one another and costly to build and maintain. We must come together as a branch, agree on standardized and integrated systems, and leverage our buying power and our investment in technology." These words have served as the guiding principle upon which technology policy and investments are made. Less than a decade ago, more than 40 different automated systems existed in courts across Arizona. Today, that number is less than 10.

The more significant achievements over the last several years include the building of the Arizona Judicial Information Network (AJIN), a statewide telecommunications network on which business systems, email, and systems support are provided to more than 3,500 court employees. The Arizona Court Automation Project (ACAP) was implemented and provides desktop automation to more than 1,400 court employees located in 147 courts in every county in Arizona. The Juvenile On Line Tracking System (JOLTS) was deployed allowing probation offices, juvenile detention centers and juvenile courts to access juvenile case information, and a "youth index" has been built and made available to Department of Public

and other vital matters. The program was one of the first of its kind in the nation. This past year, the Fiduciary Advisory Committee was established to review the practices, accounting, and case management of fiduciaries. The recommendations from the Committee on changes in statutes, rules, and administrative procedures will guide the Judicial Branch's future efforts to provide greater protection for the vulnerable population served by private fiduciaries. While the efforts of the Committee are just beginning, the work started by Chief Justice Zlaket to protect this group of Arizonans will benefit our state for generations to come.

result in a timely fashion," Chief Justice Zlaket has said. The backlog of discipline cases has been addressed and the Supreme Court has now adopted new time standards to process 98 percent of all cases within 22 months.

In conjunction with the State Bar, the Judicial Branch also is working to provide greater oversight of attorneys from other states who appear in Arizona courts. Together, the Bar and the Supreme Court have crafted new rules to regulate attorneys from other states who are granted qualified permission to practice in Arizona. The Judicial Branch also has partnered with the State Bar to maintain the viability of the Client Protection Fund. The Fund exists to

Safety officers for their easy access to juvenile offender information.

Work nearing completion includes a statewide repository of domestic violence protection order information that will be used by courts and law enforcement as a tool in protecting those who need this kind of help and a web-based case information search site to expand public access to court records. These are just a few of the many innovative ways in which Arizona courts are using technology to enhance public protection, eliminate barriers to access its courts and make courts more efficient and accountable.

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iCourt Eliminates Barriers

Improving access to court information by giving assistance, providing forms, and eliminating barriers to the courts are the goals of iCourt. Its multiple programs allow court customers to help themselves using the Self Service Center, which provides information and forms for people representing themselves in court; the Elder Law Hotline, a telephone hotline providing free legal advice for Arizona seniors; the Parent's Assistance Program Hotline, a statewide service for people involved with Child Protective Services; and, a link to the Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence Hotline.

Connecting with the Community

Oral Arguments on the Road To increase the public's exposure to and understanding of the highest court, the Supreme Court has continued the tradition of holding its oral arguments outside of the Arizona State Courts Building. Throughout the past five years, the Supreme Court has held sessions in Sierra Vista, Pinetop/Lakeside, Kingman, Coolidge, Yuma and Sun City. In addition to these visits, the Supreme Court has also held oral arguments at the University of Arizona's James E. Rogers College of Law each fall, and Arizona State University's College of Law each spring. This year, the Supreme Court held session in Nogales. All of these court arguments that are held outside of Phoenix provide the Supreme Court with an opportunity to connect with the community.

Citizen Summits

There is no better way to "connect with the community" than to meet in person with people of the community. And that is exactly what judges,

the Initiative is a response to the over-representation of minority youth in the justice system. Arizona is the second jurisdiction in the nation to undertake this effort. The Initiative is the latest effort by the Judicial Branch to address juvenile justice issues.

Throughout the last five years, the Judicial Branch has counted on input from Community Advisory Boards to help guide the courts when forming juvenile justice policies. The Boards, which exist in the majority of counties, provide citizen review to the administration of juvenile justice at the local level. Comprised of volunteers appointed by the Presiding Juvenile Court Judge of each county, Boards help bridge the gap between juvenile courts and the community. The Boards have played a critical role in achieving the goals of *Justice 2002* and in formulating judicial policy.

Victims' Rights

Victims' rights have been and will continue to be a priority of the Judicial Branch. Since their addition to the Arizona Constitution a decade ago, courts have worked diligently with representatives from the victim's community to guarantee that the Judiciary is protecting these rights. A dialogue with advocates and victims hosted by Chief Justice Zlaket and Vice Chief Justice Jones in 2000 helped define areas needing additional attention. These issues are now prominently part of the Branch's strategic agenda.

The Judiciary is committed to protecting the rights of victims. Respect for a victim's right to be informed of all proceedings, the right to provide an impact statement to the court, the right to restitution, and the right to swift, fair justice are the guiding principles for projects that will be undertaken in the years to come.

Web Sites

From its initial launch, the Judicial Branch web site has striven to provide the public

"We deserve your scrutiny, and I believe we fare well, but we can always get better." Toward that end, the Judiciary has taken steps to address the fourth and final goal of *Justice 2002*, Being Accountable.

State of the Judiciary Address

On January 29, 2001, Chief Justice Zlaket made a historic presentation before a joint session of the Arizona Legislature. It was the first time a Chief Justice had been asked to report on the condition of Arizona's Judicial Branch. Prior to his report, Chief Justice Zlaket noted that the invitation to speak, "Is a clear sign that we have entered a time of mutual respect and cooperation--a time for healthy debate without rancor--a time in which we can focus on our common goals." The Chief Justice's address reported on the condition of our courts and outlined ways that the Legislative and Judicial branches can work together for the common good of the people of Arizona.

Judicial Performance

To help voters decide whether the judges who are appointed through the merit selection system should be retained in office, the Judicial Branch now provides voters with critical information to help them evaluate judicial performance. The Commission on Judicial Performance Review, with invaluable assistance from the Legislature and the office of the Secretary of State, made more information available to voters about the performance of Appellate Court judges and Superior Court judges in Maricopa and Pima Counties than ever before. The 2000 Voter Publicity Pamphlet included ratings of every judge standing for retention in Arizona. This information was also made available on the Internet and through a toll-free telephone number.

justices, and court staff have been doing throughout Arizona. The Judicial Branch has conducted numerous forums around the state improving how courts listen to communities and establishing effective methods of communication between courts and the people they serve. Foremost in these efforts has been the Citizen Summits attended by the Chief Justice, other justices, judges and court staff. These summits, held around the state, are forums where citizens have the opportunity to converse with judges and court personnel about our justice system. Local courts have implemented similar programs in their areas.

Addressing Juvenile Justice

In August 2000, Chief Justice Zlaket announced Arizona's participation in the Building Blocks Initiative. Developed by James Bell, Esq., of the Youth Law Center,

with useful information, access to court decisions, and helpful tools, calculators and forms. Supreme and Appellate Court opinions are posted, child support calculators are available, the award winning Law for Kids' web site for children can be accessed, and other valuable information can be obtained on the web site. Web sites maintained by the Judicial Branch in counties and cities across Arizona help the public interact with their courts. Some jurisdictions have made it possible for jurors to postpone jury service on line, and others provide virtual tours of their courts to help familiarize litigants, victims, and attorneys with the courts.

Being Accountable

"We share the responsibility to make sure that taxpayer money is spent wisely and that citizens are getting the best 'bang' for their buck," Chief Justice Zlaket has commented on court accountability.

Increasing Public Input

In order to make Arizona's justice system more accountable to the communities it serves, Chief Justice Zlaket has made a concentrated effort to appoint community members to every committee and commission within the court system. "The many councils, commissions and subcommittees of our Judicial Branch have been enriched by the addition of public members, non-lawyers and non-judges, and by our commitment to ethnic, gender and geographic diversity on these bodies," Chief Justice Zlaket has said. "Today, more than 2,500 citizens serve on court committees, volunteer as Foster Care Review Board members or as Court Appointed Special Advocates for children, and serve as hearing officers or judges pro tempore. Every court policy making and advisory committee now has public members."

In Memory of...

The Judicial Branch lost four of its family members this past year. Judge James Ackerman, Judge Robert Kuebler Jr., Judge Gordon Alley, and Administrative Office of the Courts Administrative Services Division Director Robert "Bob" Wininger will be missed by their colleagues.

Chief Justice Zlaket has been recognized by numerous organizations for his many contributions to the administration of Justice. This year he was awarded:



The Award of Special Merit from the State Bar of Arizona (left); The Chief Justice Richard Holmes Award of Merit from the American Judges Association; and, The Reardon Award from the National Center for State Courts (below) presented by Roger Warren, President of the National Center for State Courts.



Judicial Branch Organization Summary - 2001*

Supreme Court

5 Justices, 6-Year Terms
Chief Justice Vice Chief Justice
3 Associate Justices

Court of Appeals

22 Judges, 6-Year Terms
Division One - Phoenix
Chief Judge & 15 Associate Judges
Division Two - Tucson
Chief Judge & 5 Associate Judges

Superior Court

147 Judges, 4-Year Terms
Presiding Judge in Each County

Apache	1	Greenlee	1	Pima	27
Cochise	4	La Paz	1	Pinal	6
Coconino	4	Maricopa	91	Santa Cruz	2
Gila	2	Mohave	5	Yavapai	6
Graham	1	Navajo	3	Yuma	5

Justices of the Peace

81 Judges, 84 Precincts, 4-Year Terms

Apache	4	Greenlee	2	Pima	7
Cochise	6	La Paz	3	Pinal	8
Coconino	4	Maricopa	23	Santa Cruz	2
Gila	2	Mohave	3	Yavapai	5
Graham	2	Navajo	6	Yuma	3

Municipal Courts

153 Full- and Part-Time Judges, 84 Cities/Towns

	Judges	Courts		Judges	Courts
Apache	3	3	Mohave	3	4
Cochise	6	6	Navajo	4	5
Coconino	13	4	Pima	12	5
Gila	5	5	Pinal	8	8
Graham	4	3	Santa Cruz	2	2
Greenlee	1	2	Yavapai	7	8
La Paz	2	2	Yuma	4	4
Maricopa	79	23			

**Numbers may change throughout 2002.*

In addition to the judges listed above, there are a number of paid, full- and part-time judges pro tempore, commissioners and hearing officers, as well as hundreds of volunteer judges pro tempore who handle cases.

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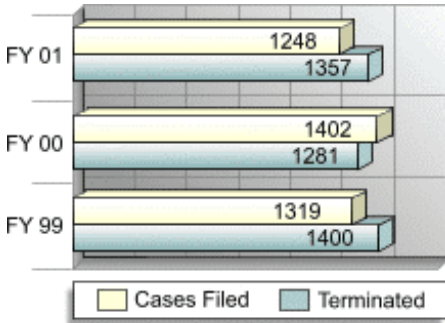
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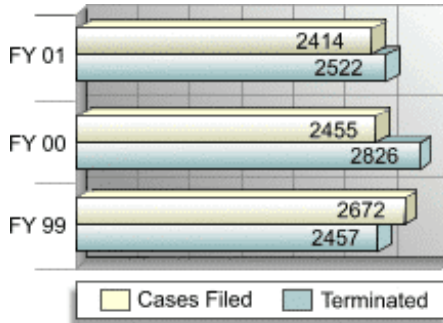
Court Statistics by Fiscal Year (July 1, 2000 - June 30, 2001)

Arizona Supreme Court



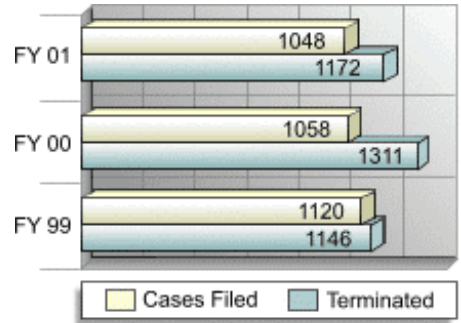
- Supreme Court FY 2001 case filings decreased 11.0% from cases filed in FY 2000.
- Cases terminated by the Court in FY 2001 increased by 5.9% over case terminations in FY 2000.
- The difference between filings and terminations resulted in a pending caseload decrease of 21.7%, down from 580 on July 1, 2000, to 454 cases on June 30, 2001.

Court of Appeals, Division One



- Filings in FY 2001 represented a 1.7% decrease from FY 2000. Total criminal filings, the largest category, increased 10.7% from 1,003 in FY 2000 to 1,110 in FY 2001.
- FY 2001 case terminations decreased by 10.8%.
- Total cases pending decreased 5.0%, from 1,918 on July 1, 2000, to 1,823 on June 30, 2001.

Court of Appeals, Division Two



- Total filings in FY 2001 decreased 0.9% from FY 2000. Total criminal filings, the largest category, increased 0.7% from 540 in FY 2000 to 544 in FY 2001.
- FY 2001 case terminations decreased by 10.6%.
- Total cases pending decreased by 5.5%, from 1,101 on July 1, 2000, to 1,041 on June 30, 2001.

FY 2001 Case Filings by Court Level

Supreme Court.....	1,248
Court of Appeals.....	3,462
Division One.....	2,414
Division Two.....	1,048
Tax Court.....	1,142

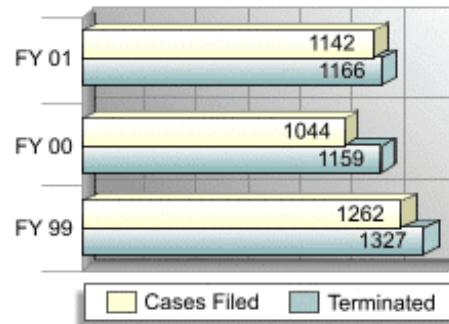
County	Superior	Justice	Municipal
Apache	833	9,754	1,987
Cochise	3,675	51,243	14,617
Coconino	3,416	32,042	29,732
Gila	2,098	16,166	6,811
Graham	1,325	5,953	3,859
Greenlee	349	2,660	684
La Paz	768	16,516	2,926
Maricopa	111,057	335,016	886,628
Mohave	5,581	39,504	31,322
Navajo	3,128	25,177	8,310
Pima	26,501	199,951	305,213
Pinal	6,683	47,226	30,573
Santa Cruz	1,504	12,528	13,093
Yavapai	6,291	46,591	37,863
Yuma	5,203	22,597	23,519

Statistical Trends/Highlights

- More than 2.4 million cases were filed in all Arizona courts in FY 2001.
- Total case filings decreased .4% but total court revenue increased 7.1%.
- The cost to process a case in 2001 was \$119.05.
- 60,800 individuals were under the jurisdiction of Arizona adult probation at the end of FY 2001, up 5.9% from FY 2000.
- The number of juveniles on probation was up 2.4% to 9,625 at the end of FY 2001.
- Superior Court criminal filings increased 11% from FY 2000 to FY 2001. Felony filings accounted for 8% of the change and limited jurisdiction court appeals accounted for 70%.

Totals:	178,462	862,924	1,397,137
Total	2000	2001	Difference
Filings:	2,453,077	2,444,375	(8,702) - 0.4%

Arizona Tax Court



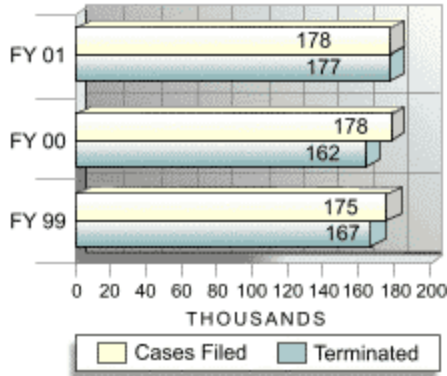
The Arizona Tax Court serves as the statewide venue for all civil actions involving a tax, impost or assessment.

Recent changes in Arizona's tax law are reflected in case filings.

- A total of 1,142 original cases were filed in the court during FY 2001, an increase of 9.4% from the 1,044 cases filed in FY 2000.
- Of the FY 2001 cases filed, 686 were property tax actions, accounting for 60.1% of the total.
- A total of 1,166 cases were terminated, 550 by judgment.
- As of June 30, 2001, there were 789 cases pending in the Tax Court.

Court Statistics by Fiscal Year (July 1, 2000 - June 30, 2001)

Superior Court



- Total case filings in FY 2001 increased by 0.4% from FY 2000.

- Total case terminations increased 9.2% in the same period.

- Civil case filings decreased 8.5% from 44,844 in FY 2000 to 41,025 in FY 2001. In the same period, civil case terminations were up by 11.5% from 45,357 to 50,565.

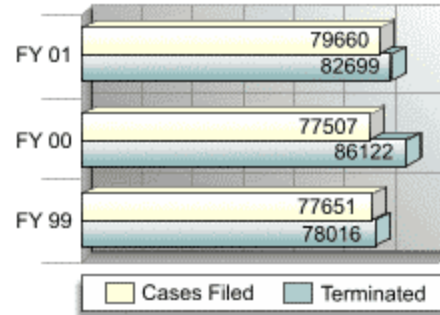
- Criminal case filings increased 11.0% from 42,688 in FY 2000 to 47,380 in FY 2001. Criminal case terminations increased 16.9%, from 38,589 to 45,111.

- Domestic relations case filings decreased 0.5% from 49,656 in FY 2000 to 49,388 in FY 2001, and domestic relations case terminations increased 11.0% from 45,653 to 50,668. Domestic violence petition filings increased 16.4% in Superior Court from 4,284 to 4,986.

- There were 188,610 cases pending on July 1, 2001, compared with 186,104 cases pending on June 30, 2000, an increase of 1.3%.

- Juveniles with direct filings to adult court decreased by 12.8%, from 666 in FY 2000 to 581 in FY 2001. Juvenile cases transferred to adult court decreased by 38.6%, from 140 in FY 2000 to 86 in FY 2001. A total of 667 juvenile cases were either transferred or directly filed in adult court in FY 2001 compared to 806 in FY 2000, a decrease of 17.2%.

Juvenile Court Referrals



- There were 79,660 referrals to juvenile court in FY 2001, a 2.8% increase compared to 77,507 in the previous year.

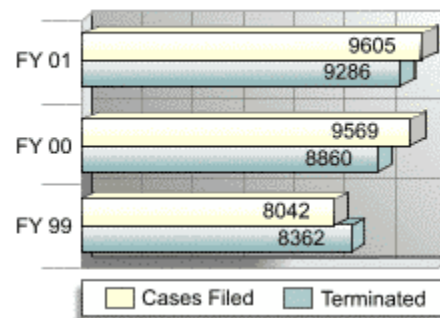
- 82,699 referrals were terminated in FY 2001, a 4.0% decrease compared to the 86,122 referrals terminated in FY 2000.

Juvenile Court Petitions

- A total of 32,881 petitions were filed in FY 2001, a 0.3% increase from the 32,796 petitions filed in FY 2000.

- A total of 32,574 petitions were terminated in FY 2001, a 4.3% increase from the 31,239 terminated in FY 2000.

Juvenile Probation / Corrections

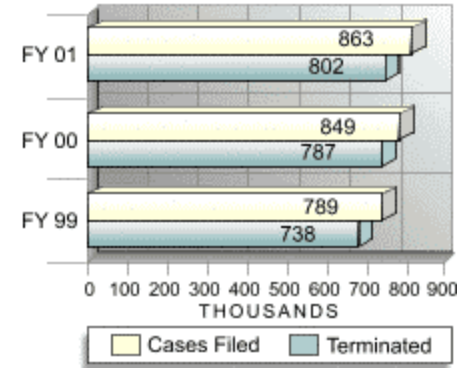


- The number of juveniles on probation at the end of FY 2001 increased 2.4% from 9,395 on July 1, 2000, to 9,625 on June 30, 2001.

- A total of 9,605 adjudicated juveniles were placed on probation in FY 2001, a .4% increase from the 9,569 youths placed on probation in FY 2000.

- 9,286 juveniles were released from probation, an increase of 4.8% from the 8,860 terminated last year.

Justice of the Peace Courts



- Total case filings in FY 2001 increased by 1.7% from FY 2000. Total case terminations increased by 1.9%.

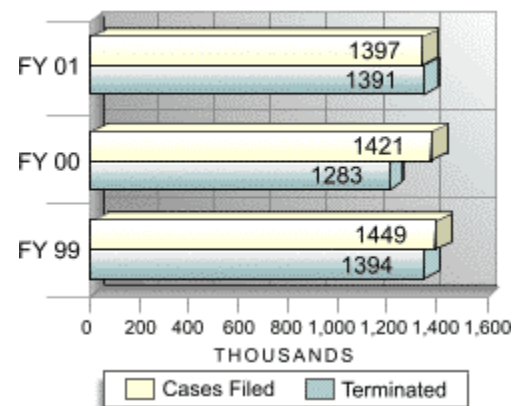
- Civil and criminal traffic filings, which comprise almost two-thirds of all justice court filings, increased 1.8%, from 543,158 in FY 2000 to 552,876 this year.

- Criminal (misdemeanor and felony) case filings decreased 5.9% from 165,991 in FY 2000 to 156,223 in FY 2001. Criminal case terminations decreased 3.8% from 144,344 in FY 2000 to 138,818 in FY 2001.

- Domestic violence petition filings increased 4.4% in justice courts, from 8,147 to 8,506. Petitions for Injunction Against Harassment decreased 5.0% from 8,569 to 8,143.

- Total cases pending increased 7.0% from 555,389 on July 1, 2000, to 594,400 on June 30, 2001.

Municipal Courts



- Case filings in FY 2001 decreased 1.7% from FY 2000. Total case terminations increased 8.4% in the same period.

- Civil and criminal traffic filings, which

Adult Probation

● The number of individuals under the jurisdiction of Arizona adult probation departments at the end of FY 2001 increased 5.9% from 57,420 on July 1, 2000, to 60,800 on June 30, 2001.

● Of the 60,800 under the jurisdiction of adult probation, 55,058 were on standard probation, 4,557 on intensive probation and 1,185 were interstate compact cases.

● 1,081 juveniles were committed to the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections during FY 2001, a decrease of 16.1% from the 1,289 committed last year.

Commission on Judicial Conduct

Caseload Summary 2001 (calendar year)

Inquiries--982	Complaints--329
Informal Actions--15	Formal Actions--1
	Dismissals--216

comprise about three-fourths of all municipal court cases, decreased 2.9%, from 1,049,867 in FY 2000 to 1,019,575 in FY 2001.

● Criminal misdemeanor case filings increased 5.7% from 212,518 in FY 2000 to 224,703 in FY 2001.

● Criminal case terminations increased 13.2% from 195,979 in FY 2000 to 221,885 in FY 2001.

● Domestic violence petitions increased 11.3% from 10,278 in FY 2000 to 11,442 in FY 2001. Petitions for Injunction Against Harassment increased 2.8% from 8,302 to 8,534.

● Total cases pending increased 1.7%, from 871,229 on July 1, 2000, to 886,463 on June 30, 2001.

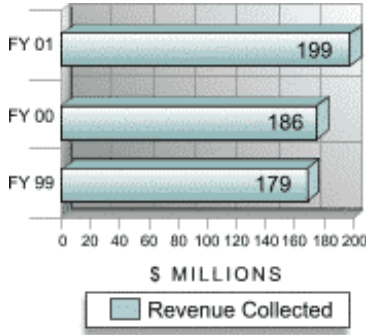
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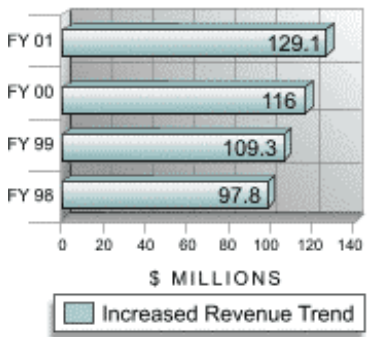
Statewide Revenue and Expenditure Summary

Revenue Summary

● Total statewide court revenue increased 7.1% from \$186.0 million in FY 2000 to \$199.1 million in FY 2001, reflecting the continuing efforts of the courts statewide to collect court-ordered fines, fees and surcharges.

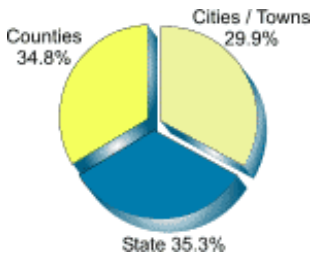


Revenue in Excess of 1988 Benchmark



Increased Revenue Trend

● This graph represents the trend in increased court revenue above the \$70 million benchmark established in FY 1988. Since that time, courts have collected more than \$838 million in additional revenue.

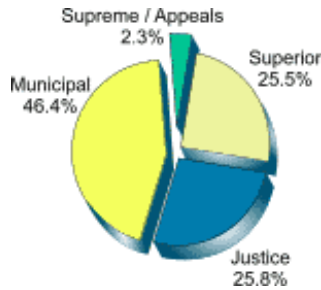


Revenue Received

● Of the total court system revenue, the state received 35.3%, counties received 34.8% and cities and towns received 29.9%.

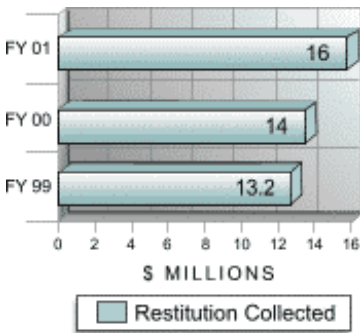
Revenue Generated

● 46.4% of total court revenue was generated by municipal courts, 25.8% by justice courts, 25.5% by Superior Court and 2.3% by appellate courts.



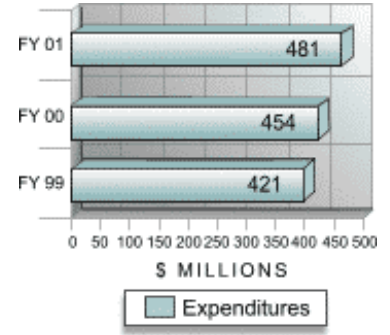
Restitution

● Total restitution payments for victims collected by courts increased 14.2% from \$14.0 million in FY 2000 to \$16.0 million in FY 2001.



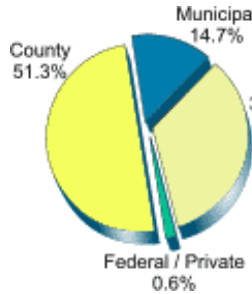
Expenditure Summary

● Total statewide court expenditures increased 5.9% from \$454.3 million in FY 2000 to \$481.3 million in FY 2001.



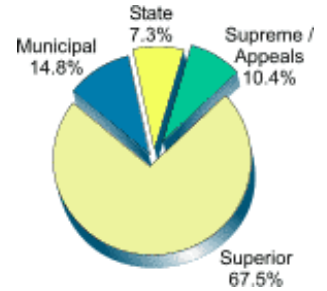
Funds Expended by Source

● 51.3% of the total funds spent by the court system were from the counties, 33.4% from the state, 14.7% from cities and towns, and 0.6% from federal and private sources.



Funds Expended by Court Level

● 67.5% of total court expenditures were in Superior Court (including probation), 14.8% in municipal courts, 10.4% at the appellate level (including statewide administration) and 7.3% in the justice courts.



The data contained in this report was compiled from Supreme Court financial records, caseload reports from courts and responses to the unaudited Supreme Court survey of expenditures and revenues for fiscal year 2001 (July 1, 2000 - June 30, 2001).

All data received by the publication deadline is included, but **some information is preliminary**. Final counts will be published in the *2001 Arizona Courts Data Report* early in 2002.



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07 October 2006

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