



# The 2020 Annual Statistics Report

on Circuit, Family, and Magistrate Courts



## The West Virginia Court System

SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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**Circuit Courts**  
**2020 Criminal Case Filings**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Felony</b>	<b>Magistrate Appeals</b>	<b>Misdemeanor</b>	<b>Other Criminal Cases</b>
<b>Barbour</b>	63	59	0	4	0
<b>Berkeley</b>	515	289	5	6	215
<b>Boone</b>	104	58	0	24	22
<b>Braxton</b>	98	79	8	0	11
<b>Brooke</b>	109	74	0	1	34
<b>Cabell</b>	594	255	12	25	302
<b>Calhoun</b>	57	51	1	5	0
<b>Clay</b>	46	32	1	0	13
<b>Doddridge</b>	50	17	0	0	33
<b>Fayette</b>	229	211	0	4	14
<b>Gilmer</b>	21	21	0	0	0
<b>Grant</b>	86	73	5	8	0
<b>Greenbrier</b>	154	132	2	9	11
<b>Hampshire</b>	156	77	2	0	77
<b>Hancock</b>	91	74	1	0	16
<b>Hardy</b>	87	56	0	2	29
<b>Harrison</b>	348	205	1	9	133
<b>Jackson</b>	152	119	8	5	20
<b>Jefferson</b>	294	99	4	6	185
<b>Kanawha</b>	721	320	4	107	290
<b>Lewis</b>	126	89	0	1	36
<b>Lincoln</b>	96	88	0	4	4
<b>Logan</b>	192	151	1	14	26
<b>Marion</b>	313	247	7	22	37
<b>Marshall</b>	61	57	3	1	0
<b>Mason</b>	112	62	1	1	48
<b>McDowell</b>	174	100	2	1	71
<b>Mercer</b>	799	250	2	14	533
<b>Mineral</b>	145	94	0	4	47
<b>Mingo</b>	128	81	0	1	46
<b>Monongalia</b>	340	310	7	3	20
<b>Monroe</b>	44	24	0	2	18
<b>Morgan</b>	58	44	0	1	13
<b>Nicholas</b>	74	73	1	0	0
<b>Ohio</b>	246	103	0	0	143
<b>Pendleton</b>	18	10	0	0	8
<b>Pleasants</b>	26	26	0	0	0
<b>Pocahontas</b>	37	17	3	8	9
<b>Preston</b>	278	146	1	8	123
<b>Putnam</b>	156	124	6	6	20
<b>Raleigh</b>	721	344	1	80	296
<b>Randolph</b>	153	111	3	11	28
<b>Ritchie</b>	32	31	0	1	0
<b>Roane</b>	241	121	0	0	120
<b>Summers</b>	53	41	0	4	8
<b>Taylor</b>	96	73	0	1	22
<b>Tucker</b>	26	21	0	1	4
<b>Tyler</b>	62	24	3	20	15
<b>Upshur</b>	160	99	0	53	8
<b>Wayne</b>	202	144	2	10	46
<b>Webster</b>	23	22	0	1	0
<b>Wetzel</b>	45	44	0	1	0
<b>Wirt</b>	12	11	1	0	0
<b>Wood</b>	475	259	4	3	209
<b>Wyoming</b>	81	54	1	26	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,780</b>	<b>5,796</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>3,363</b>

**Circuit Courts**  
**2020 Civil Case Filings**

	Total	Admin. Agency	Adoption	Divorce	Domestic Violence	General Civil	Guardian ship	Magistrate Appeals	Mental Health	Other Civil Case	Other Domestic	Personal Safety
Barbour	130	0	36	0	0	43	12	2	12	25	0	0
Berkeley	934	3	107	0	0	307	45	13	251	193	0	15
Boone	334	0	67	0	0	104	10	4	84	65	0	0
Braxton	125	2	13	0	0	47	4	2	23	34	0	0
Brooke	183	1	10	0	0	86	9	5	43	25	1	3
Cabell	1,722	0	123	0	0	434	36	17	1,038	72	0	2
Calhoun	44	0	14	0	0	8	4	0	13	5	0	0
Clay	61	0	20	0	0	18	4	0	10	9	0	0
Doddridge	84	0	6	0	0	26	1	2	28	21	0	0
Fayette	343	1	55	0	0	141	16	5	72	53	0	0
Gilmer	16	0	0	0	0	9	1	0	0	6	0	0
Grant	67	0	7	0	0	34	2	7	12	3	2	0
Greenbrier	286	0	25	0	0	131	19	5	83	21	0	2
Hampshire	155	0	25	0	0	54	14	10	27	25	0	0
Hancock	198	3	13	0	0	97	10	2	43	27	0	3
Hardy	86	4	9	0	0	39	3	1	8	22	0	0
Harrison	726	0	55	0	0	307	10	10	251	90	2	1
Jackson	327	0	50	0	0	85	21	8	83	80	0	0
Jefferson	319	3	31	0	4	159	16	4	63	37	0	2
Kanawha	2,446	90	175	0	0	1,056	96	120	519	373	0	17
Lewis	401	1	25	0	0	84	9	4	244	33	0	1
Lincoln	323	0	51	0	0	82	12	4	73	100	0	1
Logan	537	3	50	0	0	144	17	4	76	239	0	4
Marion	561	0	76	0	1	179	23	12	140	125	0	5
Marshall	373	0	17	23	0	125	7	4	143	54	0	0
Mason	97	0	14	0	0	26	3	3	30	21	0	0
McDowell	164	0	23	0	0	59	4	1	39	38	0	0
Mercer	827	1	57	0	0	275	53	14	288	129	0	10
Mineral	183	1	28	0	0	71	6	2	26	49	0	0
Mingo	289	0	50	0	0	167	8	3	46	15	0	0
Monongalia	1,170	7	73	0	0	376	15	34	292	369	0	4
Monroe	83	0	10	0	0	37	4	1	13	17	0	1
Morgan	100	2	11	0	0	35	12	0	20	20	0	0
Nicholas	220	0	41	0	0	77	3	1	61	36	1	0
Ohio	696	1	16	0	0	279	6	6	320	68	0	0
Pendleton	34	0	5	0	0	19	5	0	1	4	0	0
Pleasants	84	0	12	0	0	39	4	1	9	19	0	0
Pocahontas	96	0	12	0	0	37	3	1	15	25	0	3
Preston	226	0	32	0	0	110	8	6	35	33	0	2
Putnam	515	3	61	0	0	198	27	6	108	111	0	1
Raleigh	832	2	96	0	0	424	37	8	160	104	0	1
Randolph	264	0	34	0	0	121	12	17	40	40	0	0
Ritchie	84	0	17	0	0	39	3	1	8	15	1	0
Roane	159	0	21	0	0	35	7	0	35	26	0	35
Summers	79	1	12	0	0	38	10	2	8	8	0	0
Taylor	122	0	28	0	0	38	3	0	23	30	0	0
Tucker	45	0	8	0	0	22	0	2	1	12	0	0
Tyler	109	0	4	0	0	44	2	0	21	38	0	0
Upshur	175	0	23	0	0	69	8	5	26	44	0	0
Wayne	354	0	46	0	0	125	24	3	97	59	0	0
Webster	79	0	19	0	0	22	2	0	10	26	0	0
Wetzel	181	1	9	0	0	59	7	2	79	21	3	0
Wirt	21	0	3	0	0	8	1	0	6	3	0	0
Wood	1,190	0	71	0	2	287	33	12	668	108	0	9
Wyoming	166	2	32	0	0	83	7	0	36	4	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,425</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>1,928</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7,018</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>5,860</b>	<b>3,229</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>123</b>

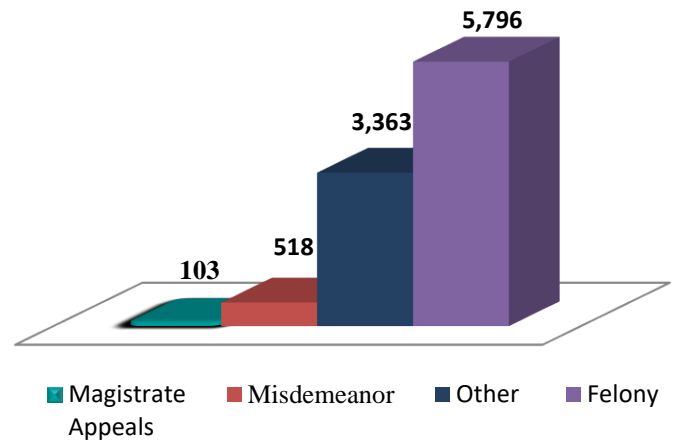
**Circuit Courts**  
**2020 Juvenile Case Filings**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Child Neglect/Abuse</b>	<b>Delinquency</b>	<b>Status Offense</b>
<b>Barbour</b>	90	79	10	1
<b>Berkeley</b>	355	222	111	22
<b>Boone</b>	196	144	25	27
<b>Braxton</b>	73	56	6	11
<b>Brooke</b>	56	16	31	9
<b>Cabell</b>	517	245	210	62
<b>Calhoun</b>	52	44	8	0
<b>Clay</b>	42	40	1	1
<b>Doddridge</b>	32	29	3	0
<b>Fayette</b>	174	164	10	0
<b>Gilmer</b>	31	21	10	0
<b>Grant</b>	70	47	20	3
<b>Greenbrier</b>	93	67	10	16
<b>Hampshire</b>	113	89	22	2
<b>Hancock</b>	85	34	33	18
<b>Hardy</b>	71	55	14	2
<b>Harrison</b>	359	260	55	44
<b>Jackson</b>	154	101	16	37
<b>Jefferson</b>	110	63	44	3
<b>Kanawha</b>	703	666	33	4
<b>Lewis</b>	79	64	12	3
<b>Lincoln</b>	101	76	7	18
<b>Logan</b>	155	130	23	2
<b>Marion</b>	255	196	39	20
<b>Marshall</b>	89	46	35	8
<b>Mason</b>	45	36	8	1
<b>McDowell</b>	76	60	13	3
<b>Mercer</b>	252	175	61	16
<b>Mineral</b>	75	51	14	10
<b>Mingo</b>	53	44	8	1
<b>Monongalia</b>	264	239	19	6
<b>Monroe</b>	16	8	7	1
<b>Morgan</b>	64	47	12	5
<b>Nicholas</b>	133	115	11	7
<b>Ohio</b>	159	116	34	9
<b>Pendleton</b>	19	17	1	1
<b>Pleasants</b>	46	25	16	5
<b>Pocahontas</b>	17	12	3	2
<b>Preston</b>	109	103	4	2
<b>Putnam</b>	191	103	33	55
<b>Raleigh</b>	301	161	56	84
<b>Randolph</b>	171	139	8	24
<b>Ritchie</b>	64	57	4	3
<b>Roane</b>	67	53	7	7
<b>Summers</b>	32	21	5	6
<b>Taylor</b>	80	75	4	1
<b>Tucker</b>	28	18	8	2
<b>Tyler</b>	27	23	3	1
<b>Upshur</b>	82	66	16	0
<b>Wayne</b>	122	90	13	19
<b>Webster</b>	69	63	6	0
<b>Wetzel</b>	32	29	3	0
<b>Wirt</b>	23	20	0	3
<b>Wood</b>	326	249	48	29
<b>Wyoming</b>	122	65	23	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,120</b>	<b>5,235</b>	<b>1,236</b>	<b>650</b>

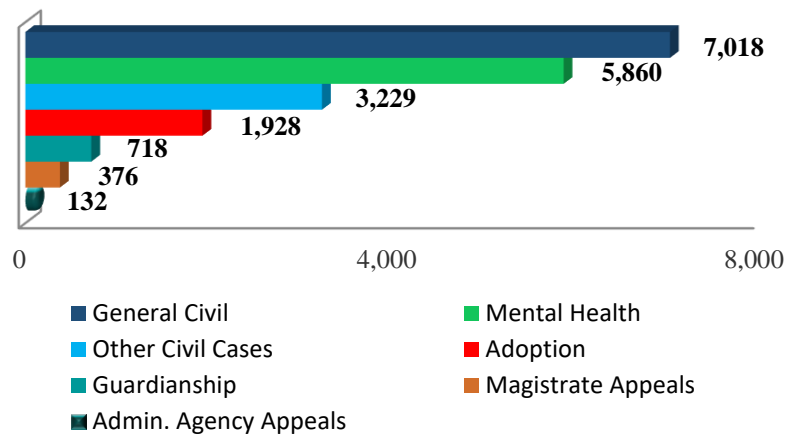
## Circuit Courts 2020 Total Case Filings

	Total	Civil	Criminal	Juvenile
Barbour	336	130	116	90
Berkeley	1,869	934	580	355
Boone	589	334	59	196
Braxton	280	125	82	73
Brooke	346	183	107	56
Cabell	3,113	1,722	874	517
Calhoun	151	44	55	52
Clay	142	61	39	42
Doddridge	196	84	80	32
Fayette	742	343	225	174
Gilmer	63	16	16	31
Grant	196	67	59	70
Greenbrier	624	286	245	93
Hampshire	387	155	119	113
Hancock	442	198	159	85
Hardy	209	86	52	71
Harrison	1,488	726	403	359
Jackson	662	327	181	154
Jefferson	763	282	371	110
Kanawha	4,449	2,446	1,300	703
Lewis	613	401	133	79
Lincoln	584	323	160	101
Logan	879	537	187	155
Marion	1,155	561	339	255
Marshall	550	373	88	89
Mason	285	97	143	45
McDowell	390	164	150	76
Mercer	1,673	827	594	252
Mineral	366	183	108	75
Mingo	528	289	186	53
Monongalia	1,812	1,170	378	264
Monroe	135	83	36	16
Morgan	235	100	71	64
Nicholas	426	220	73	133
Ohio	1,060	696	205	159
Pendleton	71	34	18	19
Pleasants	165	84	35	46
Pocahontas	174	96	61	17
Preston	633	226	298	109
Putnam	1,078	515	372	191
Raleigh	2,441	832	1,308	301
Randolph	615	264	180	171
Ritchie	202	84	54	64
Roane	369	159	143	67
Summers	191	79	80	32
Taylor	366	122	164	80
Tucker	110	45	37	28
Tyler	194	109	58	27
Upshur	426	175	169	82
Wayne	746	354	270	122
Webster	177	79	29	69
Wetzel	293	181	80	32
Wirt	66	21	22	23
Wood	2,041	1,190	525	326
Wyoming	433	166	145	122
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,529</b>	<b>19,388</b>	<b>12,021</b>	<b>7,120</b>

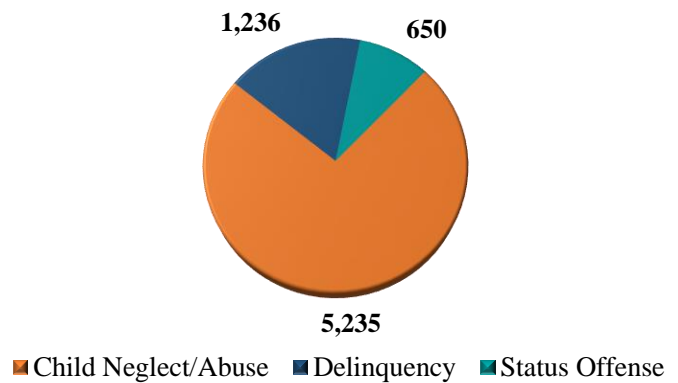
### 2020 Circuit Court Criminal Cases Filed



### 2020 Circuit Court Civil Cases Filed



### 2020 Circuit Court Juvenile Cases Filed



## Circuit Court Summary

As of 2020, West Virginia has seventy-five judges in thirty-one judicial circuits. The circuits vary in size; one has seven judges while seven 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 are required to reside in the circuit they serve and must be admitted to practice law in West Virginia for at least five years prior to taking office. The elections are non-partisan and they serve eight-year terms. If a Circuit Judge leaves office prior to the expiration of his or her term, the Governor of the State of West Virginia appoints a replacement to serve until the next election.

Circuit Courts are trial courts of record. They have jurisdiction with limited exceptions over all civil cases in which more than \$7,500 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 2020, there were 38,248 cases filed in West Virginia's Circuit Courts, an almost 12.5 percent decrease from 2019 cases filed. Of the 2020 circuit cases, 19,106 were civil case filings (49.9 percent), 12,021 were criminal case filings (31.4 percent), and 7,121 were juvenile case filings (18.6 percent).

### Child Abuse and Neglect Overlap Cases

Types of petitions filed:	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Juvenile Administrative Order (JAA)</b>	397	512	439	409	414	439
<b>Juvenile Administrative Order where Mandamus was issued (JAM)</b>	2	2	3	0	4	1
<b>Family Infant Guardianship (FIG)</b>	806	1,269	1,366	1,383	1,470	1,333
<b>Circuit Court Infant Guardianship (CIG)</b>	440	623	508	461	542	498
<b>Circuit Court Infant Guardianship Removed (CIGR)</b>	144	133	122	131	96	96

“Overlap” cases are cases originating in Family Court that involve some allegation of child abuse and/or neglect, and due to this allegation are transferred to and processed 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 an order directing Child Protective Services to assess the referral and make a written investigation report to the Circuit Court within the timeframe specified within the law, typically 45 days.
- **Juvenile Administrative Order where mandamus was issued (JAM):** If the written report is not filed within the time frame specified within the 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 issue a writ of mandamus requiring Child Protective Services to explain its decision or to file the petition.
- **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

The Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia has adopted a process for efficiently managing and resolving Mass Litigation that includes the establishment of a Mass Litigation Panel. The Mass Litigation Panel consists of seven active or senior status circuit court judges appointed by the Chief Justice, with the approval of the Supreme Court of Appeals. Each appointment is for a term of three years and there is no prohibition against serving successive terms. The Chief Justice annually designates a Panel Member to serve as its Chair to preside over the activities of the Panel and report to the Supreme Court of Appeals.

The Mass Litigation Panel began using electronic filing in December 2008. Electronic filing saves paper, storage space, and litigants' time and money. If the Panel determines it is appropriate, the Panel Chair enters an order designating Mass Litigation for electronic filing and service and transfers the Mass Litigation to either the Circuit Court of Kanawha County, Ohio County or Raleigh County for purposes of electronic filing and service.

97,362 documents were electronically filed, and 3,290,141 documents were electronically served from January 2020 through December 2020 in all Mass Litigation cases subject to electronic filing and service. These statistics include items rejected in the clerk review process in order to capture all work performed in the three circuit court clerks' offices handling Mass Litigation cases, as well as orders, which do not go through the clerk review process.

670,935 pages were electronically filed in all Mass Litigation cases subject to electronic filing and service during 2020. This translates to over 279 boxes of paper, based on 2400 pages per box. From December 2008, when electronic filing and service was first implemented in certain Mass Litigation cases, through the end of December 2020, a total of 1,088,803 documents were electronically filed, and 7,097,349 pages were electronically filed in all Mass Litigation cases subject to electronic filing and service. This translates to over 2,957 boxes of paper.

From January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020, a total of 5,087 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 chart is a breakdown of orders entered in each Mass Litigation subject to electronic filing and service in 2020:

Litigation	Jan-Dec 2020
Asbestos Personal Injury Litigation	4,729
FELA Asbestos Cases	3
Gavin Landfill Litigation	2
Marcellus Shale Litigation	116
Mingo County Coal Slurry Litigation	0
Opioid Litigation	225
Raleigh Heart Clinic Litigation	5
Tobacco Litigation	6
Yeager Airport Litigation	1
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF ORDERS</b>	<b>5,087</b>



**Family Courts**  
**2020 Domestic Case Filings**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Divorce</b>	<b>Domestic Violence</b>	<b>Other Domestic Relations</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Contempt</b>	<b>Modification</b>
<b>Barbour</b>	186	79	85	22	46	15	31
<b>Berkeley</b>	1,136	510	306	320	422	174	248
<b>Boone</b>	307	124	143	40	49	25	24
<b>Braxton</b>	145	62	53	30	82	50	32
<b>Brooke</b>	202	69	89	44	56	26	30
<b>Cabell</b>	1,147	377	559	211	516	257	259
<b>Calhoun</b>	76	40	27	9	2	0	2
<b>Clay</b>	116	47	52	17	56	23	33
<b>Doddridge</b>	62	28	25	9	19	4	15
<b>Fayette</b>	448	182	155	111	324	161	163
<b>Gilmer</b>	61	27	27	7	1	1	0
<b>Grant</b>	137	45	70	22	102	42	60
<b>Greenbrier</b>	438	141	208	89	57	31	26
<b>Hampshire</b>	196	93	46	57	139	64	75
<b>Hancock</b>	274	96	106	72	35	8	27
<b>Hardy</b>	172	67	71	34	132	57	75
<b>Harrison</b>	732	265	370	97	242	93	149
<b>Jackson</b>	383	131	185	67	107	48	59
<b>Jefferson</b>	524	217	155	152	176	89	87
<b>Kanawha</b>	2,235	678	1,233	324	420	187	233
<b>Lewis</b>	181	73	79	29	57	27	30
<b>Lincoln</b>	282	103	140	39	153	50	103
<b>Logan</b>	642	175	402	65	150	42	108
<b>Marion</b>	595	227	276	92	145	72	73
<b>Marshall</b>	218	84	68	66	0	0	0
<b>Mason</b>	116	31	36	49	19	12	7
<b>McDowell</b>	202	95	71	36	41	10	31
<b>Mercer</b>	1,143	316	665	162	190	78	112
<b>Mineral</b>	271	110	94	67	138	65	73
<b>Mingo</b>	423	151	192	80	181	51	130
<b>Monongalia</b>	736	280	352	104	193	57	136
<b>Monroe</b>	186	57	97	32	22	14	8
<b>Morgan</b>	173	63	67	43	97	60	37
<b>Nicholas</b>	274	100	140	34	165	88	77
<b>Ohio</b>	346	113	142	91	104	56	48
<b>Pendleton</b>	74	31	35	8	49	25	24
<b>Pleasants</b>	80	35	36	9	5	4	1
<b>Pocahontas</b>	107	27	59	21	63	41	22
<b>Preston</b>	364	131	172	61	106	45	61
<b>Putnam</b>	574	259	227	88	110	44	66
<b>Raleigh</b>	990	383	477	130	270	125	145
<b>Randolph</b>	321	119	160	42	102	37	65
<b>Ritchie</b>	119	46	57	16	4	0	4
<b>Roane</b>	125	64	32	29	0	0	0
<b>Summers</b>	136	50	59	27	69	32	37
<b>Taylor</b>	149	73	52	24	43	15	28
<b>Tucker</b>	60	21	31	8	25	10	15
<b>Tyler</b>	92	28	49	15	0	0	0
<b>Upshur</b>	214	104	73	37	107	40	67
<b>Wayne</b>	392	191	130	71	230	133	97
<b>Webster</b>	118	54	47	17	68	46	22
<b>Wetzel</b>	152	66	56	30	0	0	0
<b>Wirt</b>	84	30	42	12	11	5	6
<b>Wood</b>	1,206	330	708	168	59	40	19
<b>Wyoming</b>	388	135	225	28	122	45	77
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,510</b>	<b>7,433</b>	<b>9,513</b>	<b>3,564</b>	<b>6,081</b>	<b>2,724</b>	<b>3,357</b>

## Family Courts 2020 Marriages Performed by County

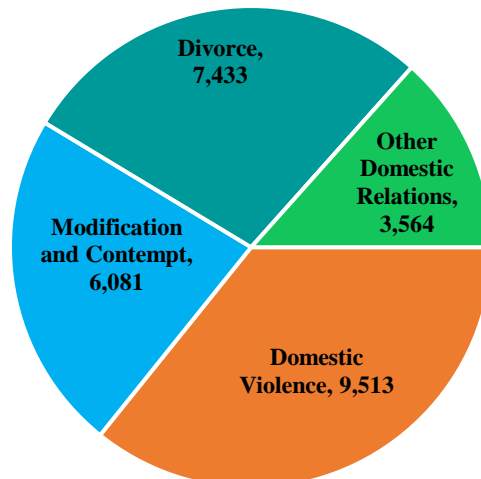
County	Total Marriages	County	Total Marriages	County	Total Marriages
Barbour	1	Kanawha	17	Preston	5
Berkeley	40	Lewis	0	Putnam	0
Boone	0	Lincoln	0	Raleigh	60
Braxton	0	Logan	6	Randolph	7
Brooke	1	Marion	38	Ritchie	0
Cabell	26	Marshall	0	Roane	0
Calhoun	0	Mason	3	Summers	0
Clay	0	McDowell	0	Taylor	0
Doddridge	0	Mercer	0	Tucker	0
Fayette	0	Mineral	3	Tyler	0
Gilmer	0	Mingo	12	Upshur	0
Grant	11	Monongalia	26	Wayne	0
Greenbrier	0	Monroe	0	Webster	1
Hampshire	0	Morgan	1	Wetzel	3
Hancock	0	Nicholas	21	Wirt	0
Hardy	27	Ohio	0	Wood	0
Harrison	152	Pendleton	2	Wyoming	1
Jackson	4	Pleasants	0		
Jefferson	0	Pocahontas	1	<b>Grand Total: 469</b>	

### Family Court Summary

West Virginia has forty-seven Family Court Judges in twenty-seven Family Court circuits. Family Court Judges are required to reside in their circuit and must be admitted to practice law in West Virginia for at least five years before taking office. Like Circuit Court Judges, their elections are non-partisan, their terms are for eight years and the Governor appoints a replacement to serve until the next election if a Family Court Judge leaves office prior to the expiration of his or her term.

Family Courts have jurisdiction over divorce, annulment, separate maintenance, paternity, grandparent visitation, name change, infant guardianship, child custody, and family support proceedings except in cases involving child abuse and neglect. Family Court Judges also hold final hearings in civil domestic violence cases and may perform marriages.

### 2020 Family Court Cases Filed



In 2020, there were 20,510 new cases filed in Family Courts in West Virginia, a 17 percent decrease from 2019 cases filed. In addition to new cases filed, there were 6,081 modifications and contempt proceedings in reopened cases this year. For details see table on *Page 8*. Family Court Judges also performed 469 weddings. For details see table on *Page 9*.

Family Court Judges can refer divorcing parents to mediation and parent education. In cases involving high conflict parents or safety concerns, visitation and exchange centers are used where available. See table below. Cases involving allegations of abuse or neglect that do not meet the statutory standard to file a petition in Circuit Court can result in guardian ad litem being appointed for a child. A guardian provides a detailed report to the Family Court Judge providing for the safety of the child and the appropriate parenting time for each parent.

**West Virginians Served by Supreme Court – Grant Supported Family Visitation Centers Grant Cycle 2020**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Number</b>
Total Clients Served.....	454
Fathers.....	219
Mothers.....	220
Grandparent / Legal Guardian.....	15
Children Involved.....	324
Supervised Visitation.....	330
Neutral Drop-off.....	136
<i>Total number of clients served = fathers + mothers + grandparent/legal guardian</i>	

**Magistrate Courts  
2020 Civil Case Filings**

County	Total	Small Claims	Personal Safety Petitions	Domestic Violence	
				EPO	TEPO
Barbour	261	149	23	89	0
Berkeley	4,139	3,202	216	721	0
Boone	307	108	44	155	0
Braxton	181	126	0	55	0
Brooke	325	188	39	97	1
Cabell	2,521	1,843	161	669	0
Calhoun	247	57	9	29	0
Clay	117	58	1	58	0
Doddridge	116	83	6	27	0
Fayette	484	329	4	150	1
Gilmer	94	62	5	26	1
Grant	184	92	16	76	0
Greenbrier	681	359	67	255	0
Hampshire	425	353	2	70	0
Hancock	367	219	35	113	0
Hardy	264	183	7	74	0
Harrison	1,765	1,336	12	417	0
Jackson	548	296	36	215	1
Jefferson	1,180	896	45	237	2
Kanawha	4,182	2,138	493	1,551	0
Lewis	425	322	10	90	3
Lincoln	267	86	43	138	0
Logan	1,182	197	575	410	0
Marion	1,219	771	95	353	0
Marshall	372	281	15	76	0
Mason	351	163	52	134	2
McDowell	182	66	10	106	0
Mercer	2,285	1,264	331	690	0
Mineral	391	233	34	122	2
Mingo	368	134	44	190	0
Monongalia	2,246	1,605	155	486	0
Monroe	243	97	40	106	0
Morgan	534	408	34	92	0
Nicholas	358	155	13	189	1
Ohio	774	535	81	158	0
Pendleton	81	43	3	35	0
Pleasants	124	87	1	36	0
Pocahontas	168	81	24	63	0
Preston	558	343	30	185	0
Putnam	839	524	34	280	1
Raleigh	1,402	804	26	569	3
Randolph	663	354	74	235	0
Ritchie	147	87	2	58	0
Roane	146	92	1	52	1
Summers	135	76	0	59	0
Taylor	244	179	0	64	1
Tucker	68	37	2	29	0
Tyler	158	82	25	51	0
Upshur	473	388	0	85	0
Wayne	494	311	22	160	1
Webster	143	74	11	58	0
Wetzel	200	116	22	62	0
Wirt	132	77	8	47	0
Wood	2,812	1,891	187	730	4
Wyoming	430	129	69	232	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,002</b>	<b>24,169</b>	<b>3,294</b>	<b>11,514</b>	<b>25</b>

**Magistrate Courts**  
**2020 Criminal Case Filings**

	Total	Worthless Check	Felony		Misdemeanor		
			Motor Vehicle	Other	Motor Vehicle	DNR	Other
Barbour	693	44	10	78	298	40	223
Berkeley	7,782	11	75	856	4,343	39	2,458
Boone	2,000	3	11	230	1,068	69	619
Braxton	966	5	10	148	428	61	314
Brooke	1,217	15	5	141	600	41	415
Cabell	5,917	15	53	882	2,635	43	2,289
Calhoun	439	7	10	39	224	19	140
Clay	830	37	14	91	411	77	200
Doddridge	574	4	5	57	367	21	120
Fayette	2,495	16	30	396	1,145	39	869
Gilmer	382	13	12	34	189	14	120
Grant	1,195	36	8	85	588	40	438
Greenbrier	1,728	108	14	243	650	54	659
Hampshire	1,243	26	17	169	509	63	459
Hancock	1,047	6	8	103	543	43	344
Hardy	2,128	72	8	133	1,262	43	610
Harrison	3,179	39	60	467	1,238	24	1,351
Jackson	1,287	33	20	182	644	26	382
Jefferson	3,010	4	23	201	1,744	81	957
Kanawha	12,445	67	148	1,728	7,179	61	3,262
Lewis	1,500	40	12	95	734	99	520
Lincoln	940	0	10	112	563	24	231
Logan	3,104	10	38	427	1,256	136	1,237
Marion	2,555	27	27	506	1,104	54	837
Marshall	1,439	8	18	220	501	20	672
Mason	1,436	9	5	142	716	68	496
McDowell	1,451	6	28	170	663	24	560
Mercer	3,670	38	36	484	1,934	15	1,163
Mineral	1,318	5	1	105	641	30	536
Mingo	1,544	1	17	345	541	55	585
Monongalia	4,056	35	43	537	1,796	85	1,560
Monroe	416	7	1	50	171	19	168
Morgan	1,789	12	15	80	642	21	1,019
Nicholas	2,255	17	21	244	1,184	188	601
Ohio	3,419	27	16	282	2,135	21	938
Pendleton	373	9	1	38	149	82	94
Pleasants	490	22	5	58	290	7	108
Pocahontas	889	21	7	72	465	101	223
Preston	2,500	41	29	207	1,427	64	732
Putnam	3,638	54	24	201	2,620	49	690
Raleigh	7,038	42	69	790	3,909	60	2,168
Randolph	1,671	96	18	220	692	95	550
Ritchie	664	13	5	38	396	71	141
Roane	1,304	2	25	129	687	33	428
Summers	433	1	5	43	168	14	202
Taylor	785	16	6	101	326	34	302
Tucker	228	41	0	16	102	16	53
Tyler	478	15	4	34	291	5	129
Upshur	1,767	35	28	342	665	46	651
Wayne	1,904	8	18	260	1,117	29	472
Webster	484	1	3	68	155	39	218
Wetzel	714	19	13	95	360	13	214
Wirt	201	2	1	20	87	14	77
Wood	3,506	20	46	507	1,149	74	1,710
Wyoming	1,660	20	11	134	957	62	476
<b>Total</b>	<b>112,176</b>	<b>1,281</b>	<b>1,147</b>	<b>13,435</b>	<b>56,658</b>	<b>2,665</b>	<b>36,990</b>

**Magistrate Courts**  
**2020 Juvenile Case Filings and Special Proceedings**

	Total	Motor Vehicle	DNR	Other	Total	Mental Health	Abuse and Neglect	Juvenile
Barbour	16	6	1	9	18	11	0	7
Berkeley	79	68	3	8	61	1	5	55
Boone	14	8	4	2	0	0	0	0
Braxton	6	4	2	0	40	7	11	22
Brooke	41	18	5	18	31	0	0	31
Cabell	19	18	1	0	210	0	0	210
Calhoun	2	0	0	2	29	16	5	8
Clay	8	7	1	0	9	2	7	0
Doddridge	12	8	0	4	15	3	9	3
Fayette	18	12	0	6	6	1	4	1
Gilmer	9	4	0	5	18	2	3	13
Grant	20	14	1	5	28	13	12	3
Greenbrier	16	6	1	9	33	0	18	15
Hampshire	18	12	1	5	50	8	27	15
Hancock	12	5	2	5	36	0	0	36
Hardy	59	42	4	13	21	7	10	4
Harrison	31	10	1	20	102	0	54	48
Jackson	8	7	0	1	35	16	18	1
Jefferson	44	41	2	1	17	1	6	10
Kanawha	100	64	1	35	242	0	0	242
Lewis	14	5	0	9	18	1	0	17
Lincoln	7	5	2	0	26	3	0	23
Logan	25	10	6	9	25	0	0	25
Marion	23	17	2	4	62	0	45	17
Marshall	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Mason	24	9	8	7	1	0	1	0
McDowell	7	1	0	6	70	60	3	7
Mercer	29	29	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mineral	17	12	1	4	32	26	1	5
Mingo	14	3	3	8	24	8	11	5
Monongalia	63	24	2	37	2	2	0	0
Monroe	1	0	1	0	15	4	8	3
Morgan	29	13	1	15	7	0	0	7
Nicholas	29	13	7	9	159	51	95	13
Ohio	27	27	0	0	43	0	0	43
Pendleton	9	8	0	1	3	0	1	2
Pleasants	8	7	0	1	49	3	23	23
Pocahontas	16	12	3	1	12	3	5	4
Preston	21	14	3	4	9	1	7	1
Putnam	48	39	2	7	0	0	0	0
Raleigh	79	44	2	33	169	61	1	107
Randolph	15	10	4	1	20	20	0	0
Ritchie	8	2	2	4	31	1	18	12
Roane	18	12	4	2	7	1	1	5
Summers	3	1	2	0	17	0	15	2
Taylor	5	3	2	0	27	23	0	4
Tucker	2	1	1	0	6	0	3	3
Tyler	3	3	0	0	5	0	2	3
Upshur	12	8	0	4	2	0	1	1
Wayne	13	12	0	1	82	36	20	26
Webster	1	1	0	0	33	10	16	7
Wetzel	6	6	0	0	9	0	2	7
Wirt	4	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Wood	32	18	2	12	69	0	69	0
Wyoming	18	17	0	1	85	11	25	49
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,165</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>2,120</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>1,145</b>

## 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 of Kanawha. Magistrates are non-partisan and they serve four-year terms. If a Magistrate is unable to complete his or her term, the Chief Circuit Judge appoints a replacement to serve until the next election.

Magistrates have jurisdiction over civil cases in which the financial amount in dispute is less than \$10,000. They hear misdemeanor cases, conduct preliminary examinations in felony cases and preside in emergency domestic violence proceedings. In criminal cases Magistrates issue and record affidavits, complaints, arrest warrants, and search warrants. They set bail and make decisions concerning proposed plea agreements. They collect court costs, cash bonds, and fines. In counties where there are not enough mental hygiene commissioners, the Chief Circuit Judge may designate a magistrate(s) to handle all or part of probable cause involuntary hospitalization cases. These, along with emergency custody in child abuse and neglect cases, are counted as special proceedings for data collection purposes.

