

Arizona Supreme Court



Honorable W. Scott Bales
Chief Justice

Honorable John Pelander
Vice Chief Justice

Honorable Robert M. Brutinel
Justice

Honorable Ann A. Scott Timmer
Justice

Honorable Clint Bolick
Justice

Administrative Office of the Courts

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Administrative Director of the Courts

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THE ARIZONA COURTS

***Data Report for FY 2015
Volume II***

Limited Jurisdiction Courts Combined

Justice of the Peace Courts

Municipal Courts

INTRODUCTION

This report presents caseload, revenue, expenditure, and personnel information, both statewide summaries and detailed information on individual limited jurisdiction courts. It is intended to supplement the Report of the Arizona Judicial Department 2015 for persons and agencies who are interested in or involved with budgeting, planning, and administration of Arizona courts. The term "FY 2015" in this report refers to the period beginning July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2015. All tables reflect this fiscal year period.

Additional data for Appellate Courts, Superior Court, Adult and Juvenile Probation and Tax Court can be found under the section for General Jurisdiction courts available at www.azcourts.gov/statistics.

Caseload statistics are compiled from monthly statistical reports submitted to the Supreme Court by the individual Justice of the Peace and Municipal Courts. Incomplete or inconsistent information, where detected, is footnoted. **While the statistics are checked for mathematical accuracy, they are not audited by the Supreme Court.**

In Arizona, Municipal Courts are required by statute in incorporated cities and towns. They are also known as "city courts" or "magistrate courts". Municipal Courts have criminal jurisdiction over misdemeanor crimes and petty offenses committed in their city or town. They also have shared jurisdiction with the Justice of the Peace Courts over violations of state law committed within their city or town limits. Municipal Court judges (magistrates) hear criminal and civil traffic cases and violations of city ordinances and codes, but they do not hear civil cases. They can also issue search warrants and handle domestic violence and harassment cases.

Justice of the Peace Court precincts have geographical boundaries established by the board of supervisors in each county, and follow voting precincts. Generally speaking, Justice of the Peace precincts are larger than city or town limits, and typically incorporate an entire city or town, and pieces of other communities as well, except in Phoenix and Tucson. Justice of the Peace Courts hear traffic cases and certain civil and criminal cases and can also issue search warrants and handle domestic violence and harassment cases.