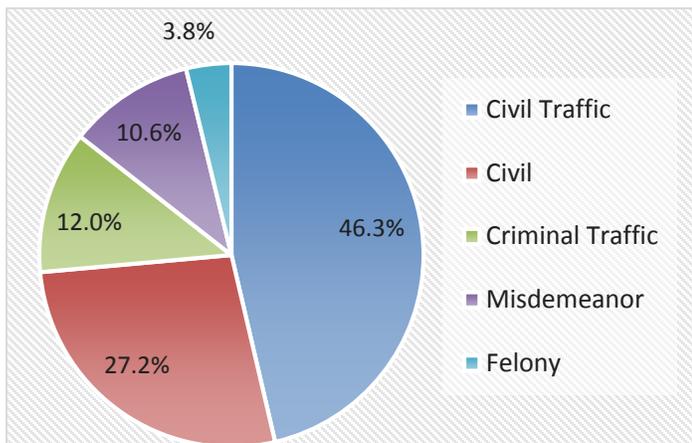


## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS Narrative Summary

Justice of the peace courts hear all types of criminal traffic and civil traffic cases, certain misdemeanor cases and some courts conduct preliminary hearings for felony cases. Civil jurisdiction for this period is limited to cases involving claims less than \$10,000 and small claims cases. Effective January 1, 2014, the small claims jurisdiction in justice courts increased from \$2,500 to \$3,500. Justice Courts issue orders of protection and injunctions prohibiting harassment and also issue search warrants.

The majority of cases filed into the Justice Courts are civil traffic cases with 46.3% and civil cases with 27.2% of the total case filings. Criminal (including felony and misdemeanor cases) and criminal traffic account for 14.4% and 12.0%, respectively and local non-criminal ordinances account for just 0.1% of the total filings.

**JUSTICE COURT  
PROPORTION OF FILINGS BY CASE TYPE  
FY 2014**

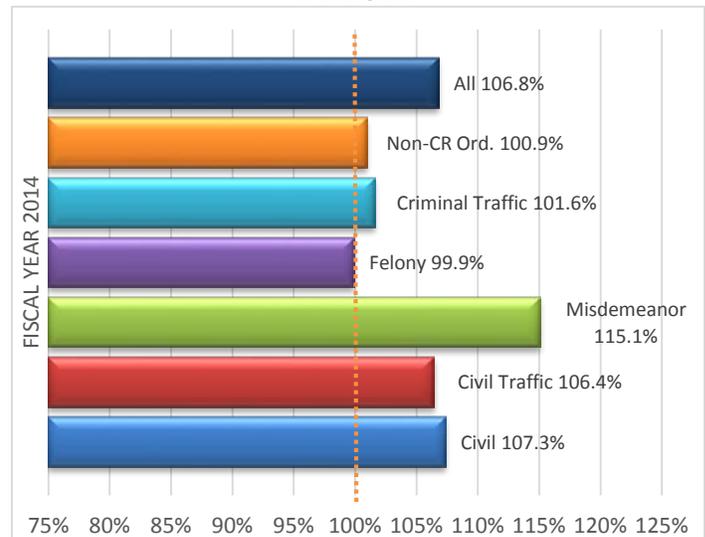


Total filings in the justice courts decreased by 3.6%, with largest decrease occurring in the civil traffic category (-5.0%). Felony filings had the largest increase in filings, cases grew by 7.3% from FY 2013 to FY 2014 and are up 32.3% from FY 2010 to FY 2014. Additionally, both the small claims and forcible detainer civil case types experienced increases of 4.9% and 2.0%, respectively.

Statewide, justice courts terminated 782,394 cases during FY 2014, a 1.7% decrease over the 796,305 cases terminated the previous fiscal year. While case terminations were down slightly, the overall pending

caseload decreased by 5.4% statewide, signifying the continuing effort by the courts to process cases efficiently. The caseload clearance rate (case terminations divided by case filings) of 106.8% resulted in a decreased pending caseload of 33,317.

**JUSTICE COURT  
CLEARANCE RATES BY CASE TYPE  
FY 2014**



Petitions for injunctions against harassment decreased by 5.0% from FY 2013 to FY 2014 while petitions for orders of protection decreased by 3.9% during the same period. Orders of protection were issued for 88.6% of the petitions filed during FY 2014 and 80.0% of injunctions against harassment petitions were issued during the same period. Justice of the Peace courts held 2,251 order of protection review hearings and 1,344 injunction against harassment review hearings during FY 2014.

Justice of the peace courts held 5,998 court trials and 232 jury trials during FY 2014. Overall, court trials experienced a decrease of 16.9% while jury trials decreased by 32.9%. Criminal traffic, misdemeanor and civil trials experienced decreases of 10.2%, 16.9% and 18.9%, respectively.

As of June 30, 2014 a total of 190,706 total warrants were outstanding, a decrease of 2.3% from FY 2013.

<sup>1</sup> Non-criminal case filings representing 0.1% of the case filings were excluded from the chart.

**ABBREVIATIONS**  
**(Justice of the Peace Courts)**

CR TRAF .....	Criminal Traffic
CV TRAF .....	Civil Traffic
DISP .....	Dispositions
DUI .....	Driving Under the Influence
FTA .....	Failure-to-Appear
Inj Harassment .....	Injunction Against Harassment
Misd .....	Misdemeanor
NC .....	Non Criminal
Non-Cr Ord .....	Non-Criminal Local Ordinances
Ord Protection .....	Order of Protection
Stat Corr .....	Statistical Correction

JUSTICE COURT CASE ACTIVITY  
FISCAL YEAR 2014

STATEWIDE TOTAL

ALL CASES ON FILE

CASE TYPE	PENDING 7/1/2013	CASES FILED			TOTAL		FISCAL YEAR 2013	
		ORIGINAL FILINGS	TRANSFER IN	TOTAL FILED	ON FILE	PENDING 7/1/2012	TOTAL FILED	
DUI	31,332	18,376	197	18,573	49,905	30,838	18,951	
SERIOUS TRAFFIC	4,064	3,379	14	3,393	7,457	3,982	3,313	
OTHER TRAFFIC	68,520	65,993	190	66,183	134,703	71,911	71,287	
TOTAL CR TRAF	103,916	87,748	401	88,149	192,065	106,731	93,551	
TOTAL CV TRAF	104,492	338,867	132	338,999	443,491	108,864	356,904	
MISDEMEANOR	161,189	62,489	196	62,685	223,874	162,672	66,790	
MISDEMEANOR FTA	33,451	6,043	8	6,051	39,502	32,846	6,922	
TRAFFIC FTA	84,500	9,105	0	9,105	93,605	84,820	9,551	
TOTAL MISD	279,140	77,637	204	77,841	356,981	280,338	83,263	
TOTAL FELONY	21,671	27,699	3	27,702	49,373	20,237	25,828	
SMALL CLAIMS	17,869	16,731	41	16,772	34,641	18,564	15,990	
FORCIBLE DETAINER	6,115	86,361	55	86,416	92,531	6,247	84,689	
OTHER CIVIL	80,979	95,627	398	96,025	177,004	89,156	98,872	
TOTAL CIVIL	104,963	198,719	494	199,213	304,176	113,967	199,551	
NC PARKING	759	589		589	1,348	786	450	
NC NON-PARKING	340	359		359	699	357	446	
TOTAL NON-CR ORD	1,099	948		948	2,047	1,143	896	
TOTAL	615,281	731,618	1,234	732,852	1,348,133	631,280	759,993	
ORD PROTECTION				8,837			9,198	
INJ HARASSMENT				6,335			6,671	

TRIALS COMMENCED

CASE TYPE	NON-JURY	JURY	TOTAL	FISCAL YEAR 2013		
				NON-JURY	JURY	TOTAL
CRIMINAL TRAFFIC	497	138	635	548	159	707
MISDEMEANOR	1,267	44	1,311	1,445	132	1,577
CIVIL	4,234	50	4,284	5,226	55	5,281
TOTAL	5,998	232	6,230	7,219	346	7,565

OUTSTANDING WARRANTS - END-OF-YEAR

TRAFFIC	6/30/2014	6/30/2013	CRIMINAL	6/30/2014	6/30/2013
DUI	18,385	18,310			
SERIOUS TRAFFIC	2,102	2,094	FELONY	12,268	12,136
OTHER TRAFFIC	85,050	85,619	MISDEMEANOR	72,901	77,027
SUBTOTAL	105,537	106,023	SUBTOTAL	85,169	89,163
TOTAL ALL WARRANTS				190,706	195,186

JUSTICE COURT CASE ACTIVITY  
FISCAL YEAR 2014

STATEWIDE TOTAL (CONTINUED)

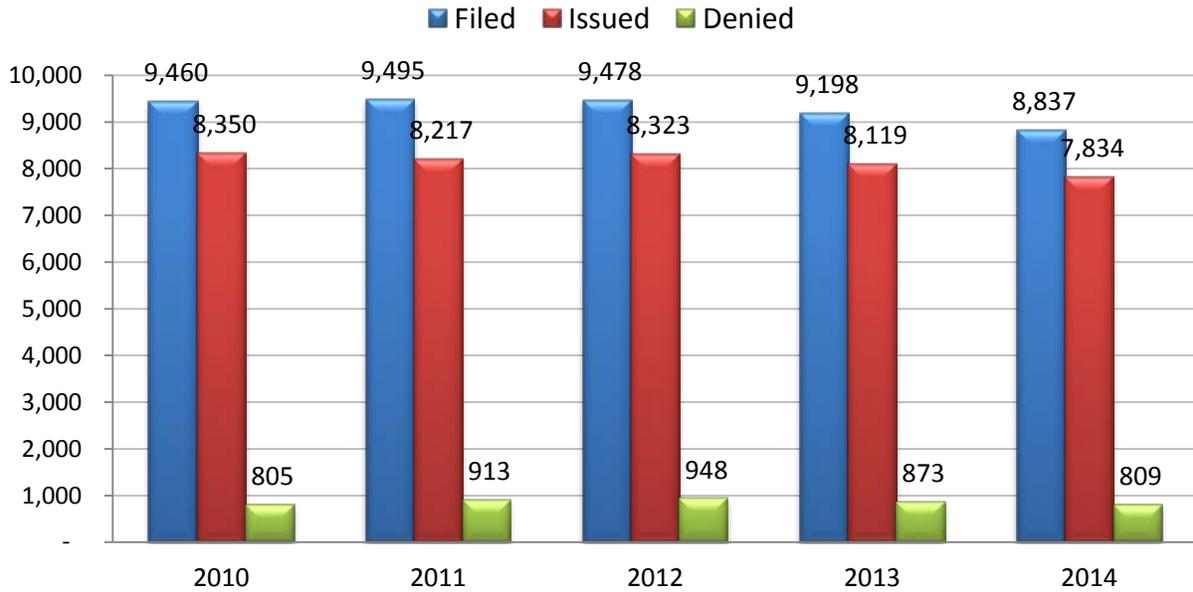
ALL CASES TERMINATED							FISCAL YEAR 2013	
CASE TYPE	CASES TERMINATED			STAT CORR	PENDING 6/30/2014	TOTAL TERM	PENDING 6/30/2013	
	TERMIN-ATIONS	TRANSFER OUT	TOTAL TERM					
DUI	18,048	222	18,270	209	31,844	18,503	31,332	
SERIOUS TRAFFIC	3,265	32	3,297	50	4,210	3,266	4,064	
OTHER TRAFFIC	67,756	235	67,991	-8,270	58,442	73,559	68,520	
TOTAL CR TRAF	89,069	489	89,558	-8,011	94,496	95,328	103,916	
TOTAL CV TRAF [1]	360,013	798	360,811	13,632	96,312	374,847	104,492	
MISDEMEANOR	74,163	360	74,523	8,139	157,490	74,530	161,189	
MISDEMEANOR FTA	5,597	6	5,603	-801	33,098	5,753	33,451	
TRAFFIC FTA	9,432	0	9,432	-330	83,843	9,939	84,500	
TOTAL MISD	89,192	366	89,558	7,008	274,431	90,222	279,140	
TOTAL FELONY	25,253	2,418	27,671	673	22,375	25,405	21,671	
SMALL CLAIMS	17,854	138	17,992	494	17,143	16,788	17,869	
FORCIBLE DETAINER	87,284	79	87,363	326	5,494	85,237	6,115	
OTHER CIVIL	108,077	407	108,484	2,100	70,620	107,219	80,979	
TOTAL CIVIL	213,215	624	213,839	2,920	93,257	209,244	104,963	
NC PARKING	578		578	0	770	801	759	
NC NON-PARKING	379		379	3	323	458	340	
TOTAL NON-CR ORD	957		957	3	1,093	1,259	1,099	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>777,699</b>	<b>4,695</b>	<b>782,394</b>	<b>16,225</b>	<b>581,964</b>	<b>796,305</b>	<b>615,281</b>	
	<u>ISSUED</u>	<u>DENIED</u>						
ORD PROTECTION	7,834	809	8,643			8,992		
INJ HARASSMENT	5,069	1,060	6,129			6,456		

[1] TERMINATIONS INCLUDE DEFAULT JUDGMENTS.

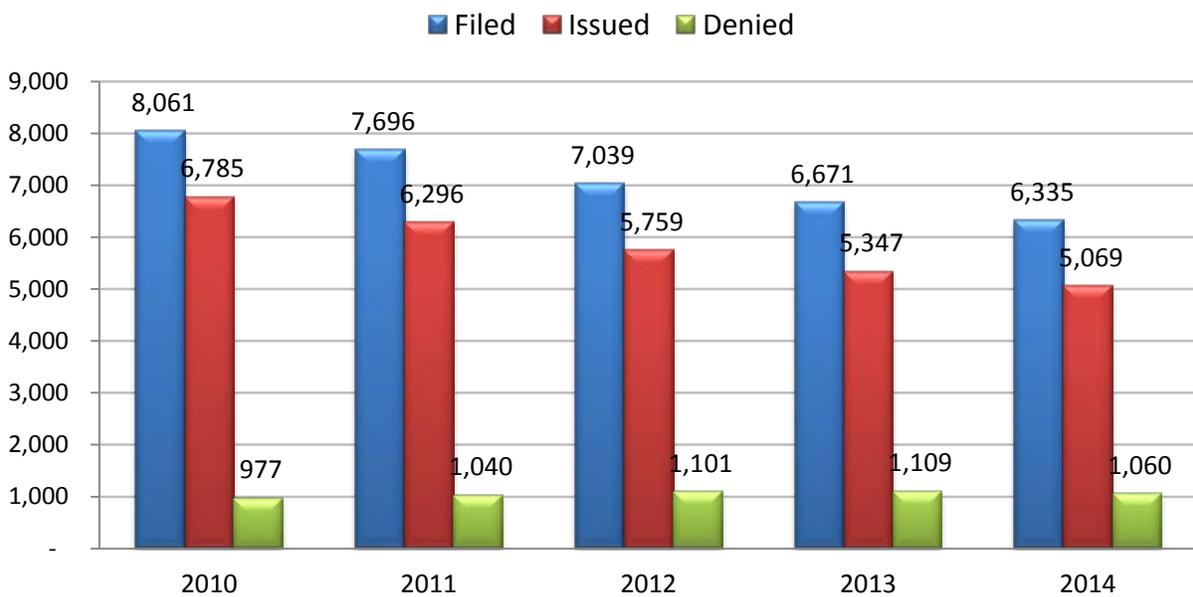
OTHER PROCEEDINGS

	FY 2014	FY 2013
SMALL CLAIMS HEARINGS/DEFAULTS	3,281	3,306
SMALL CLAIMS HEARINGS (W/HEARING OFFICER)	488	556
CIVIL TRAFFIC HEARINGS	40,388	41,522
FELONY PRELIMINARY HEARINGS	370	390
INITIAL APPEARANCES	53,470	54,989
ORDER OF PROTECTION REVIEW HEARINGS	2,251	2,147
INJUNCTION AGAINST HARASSMENT REVIEW HEARINGS	1,344	1,226
PEACE BOND COMPLAINTS	5	2
FUGITIVE COMPLAINTS	399	504
JUVENILE HEARINGS	330	316
SEARCH WARRANTS ISSUED	3,134	3,274

### JUSTICE COURT PETITIONS FOR ORDERS OF PROTECTION FY 2010 - FY 2014



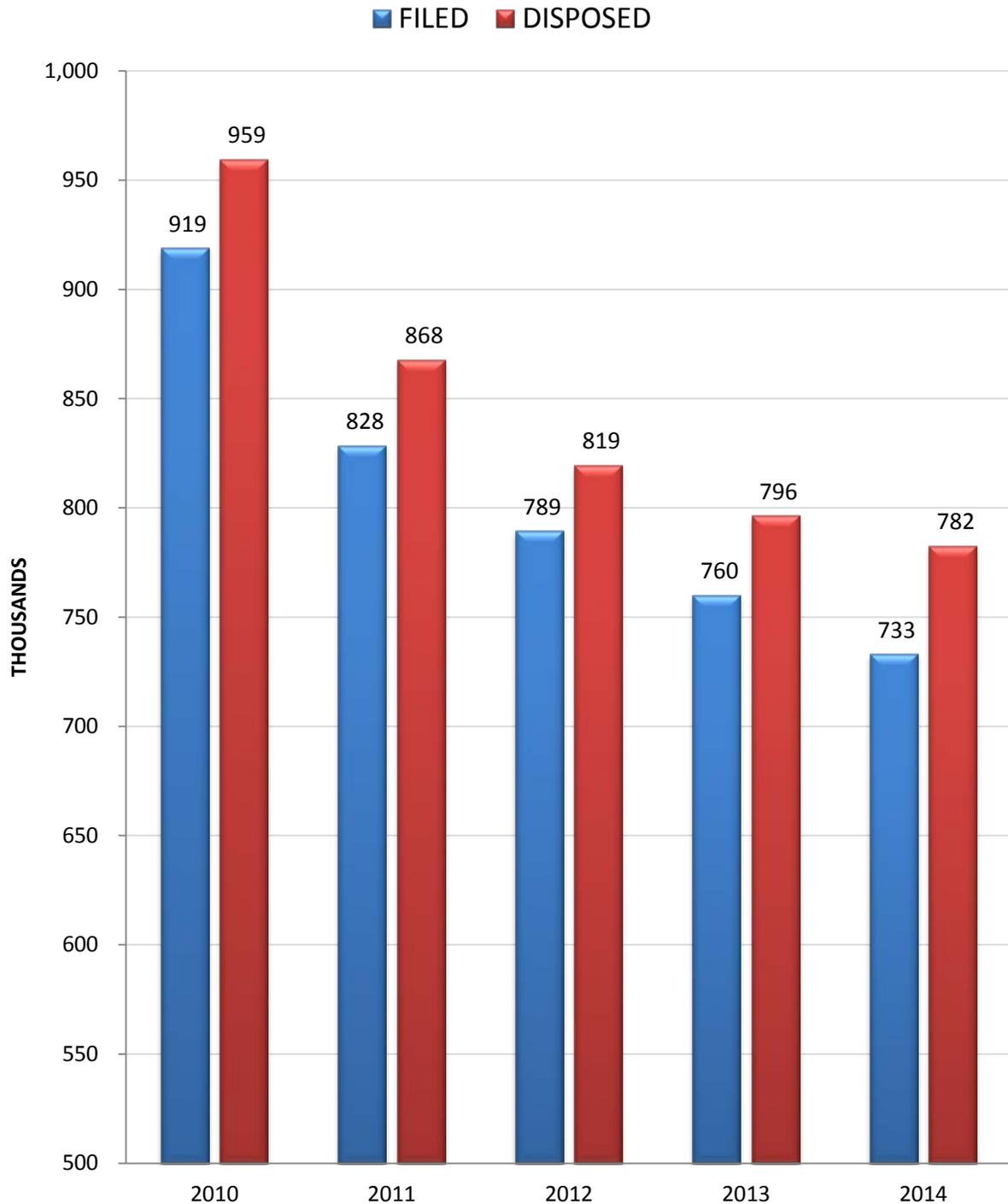
### JUSTICE COURT PETITIONS FOR INJUNCTIONS AGAINST HARASSMENT FY 2010 - FY 2014



# JUSTICE COURT

## ANNUAL CASE ACTIVITY, FY 2010 - 2014

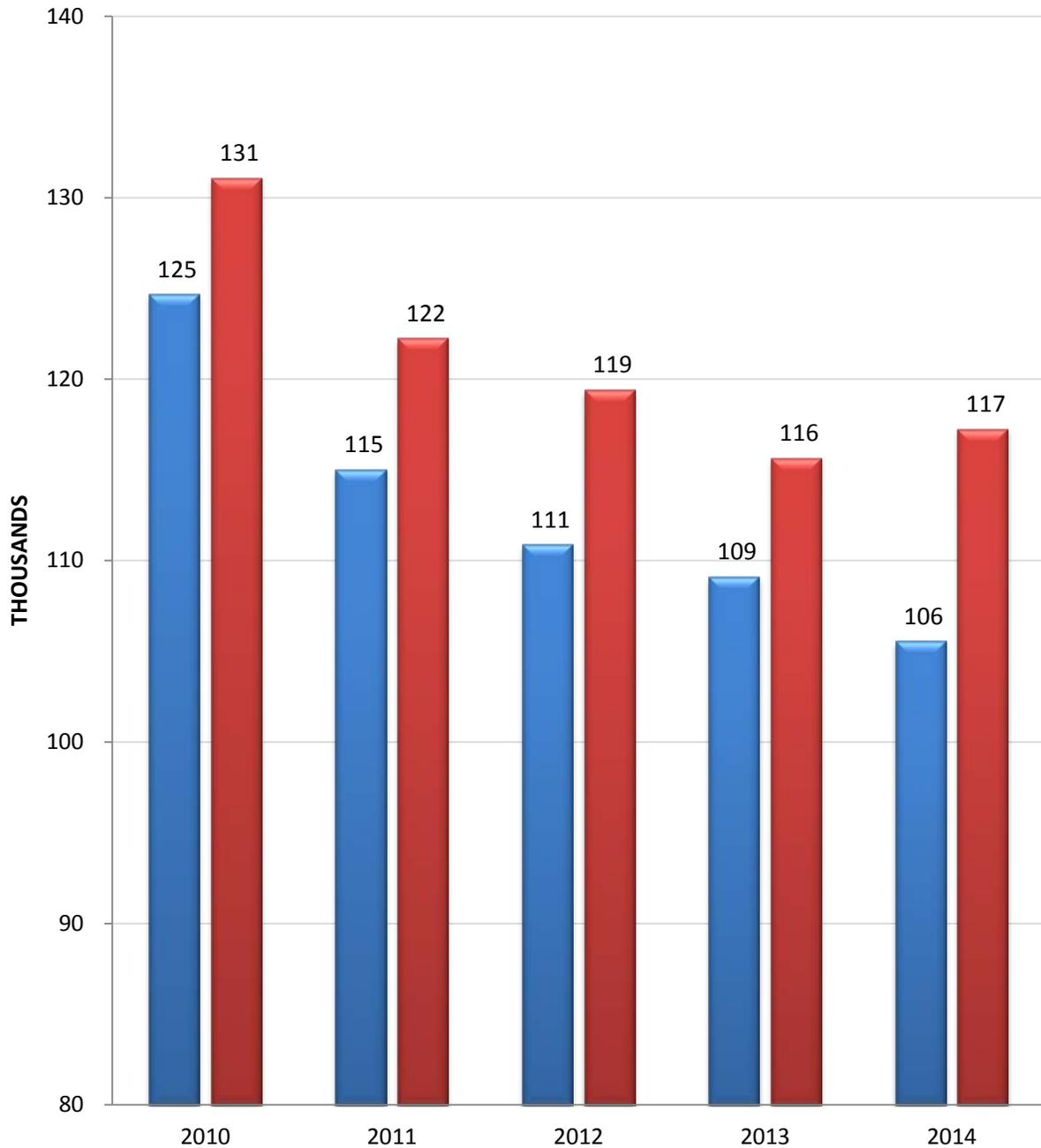
### CASES FILED AND DISPOSED



CASES FILED INCLUDES ORIGINAL FILINGS AND TRANSFERS IN.  
CASES DISPOSED INCLUDES CASES TERMINATED AND TRANSFERS OUT.

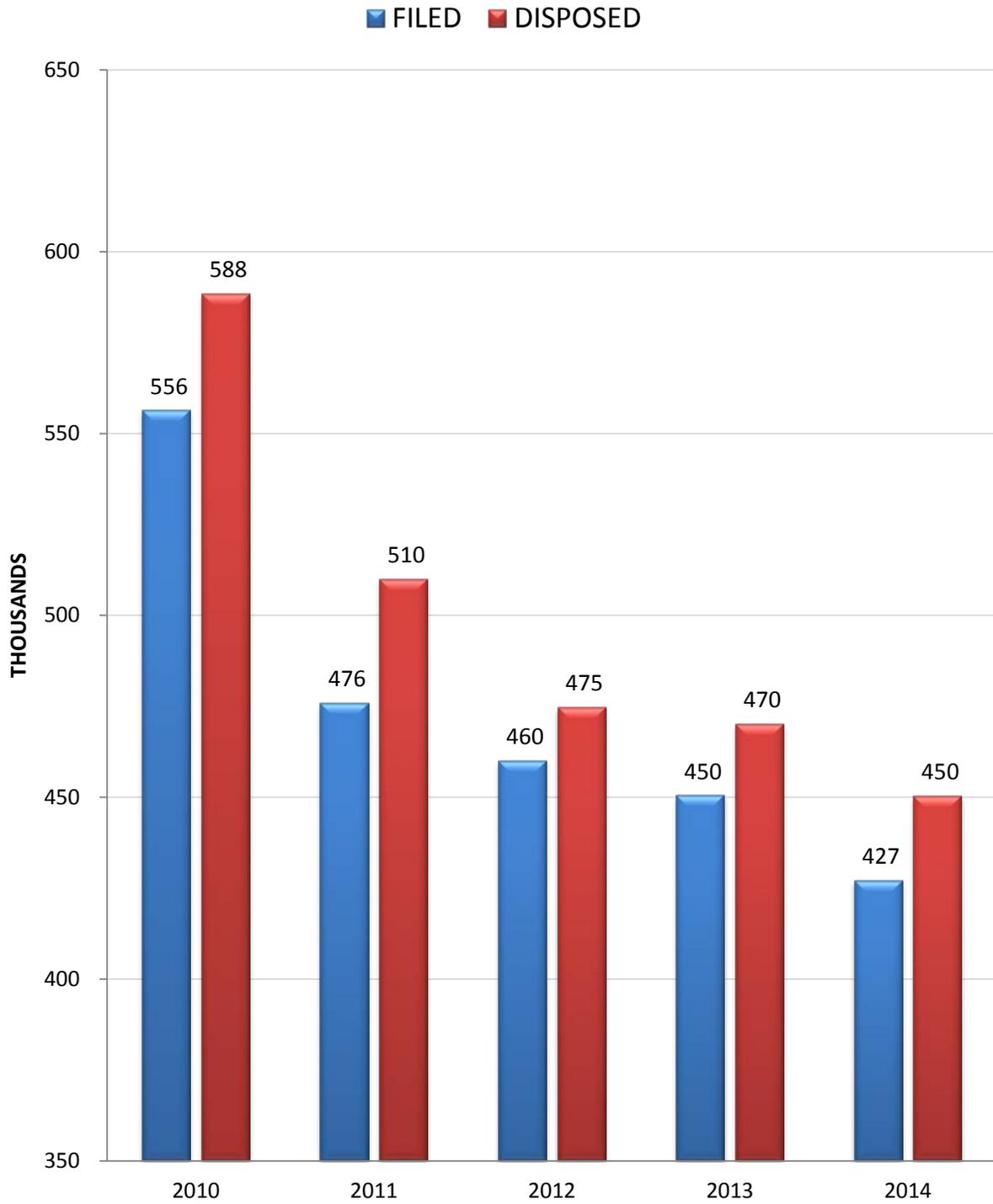
# JUSTICE COURT CRIMINAL CASE ACTIVITY, FY 2010 - 2014 CASES FILED AND DISPOSED

■ FILED ■ DISPOSED



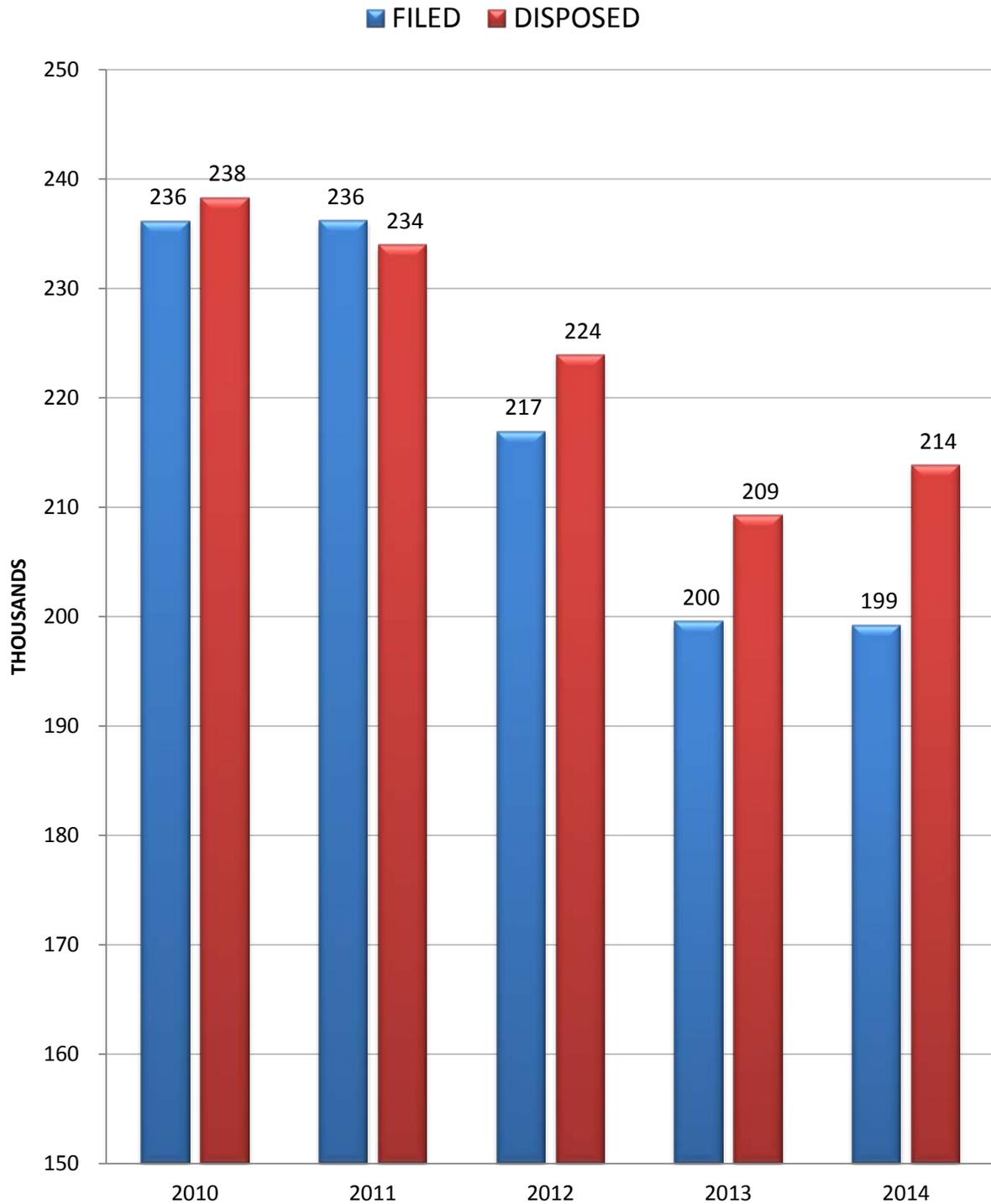
CASES FILED INCLUDES ORIGINAL FILINGS AND TRANSFERS IN.  
CASES DISPOSED INCLUDES CASES TERMINATED AND TRANSFERS OUT.

# JUSTICE COURT TRAFFIC CASE ACTIVITY, FY 2010 - 2014 CASES FILED AND DISPOSED



CASES FILED INCLUDES ORIGINAL FILINGS AND TRANSFERS IN.  
CASES DISPOSED INCLUDES CASES TERMINATED AND TRANSFERS OUT.

# JUSTICE COURT CIVIL CASE ACTIVITY, FY 2010 - 2014 CASES FILED AND DISPOSED



CASES FILED INCLUDES ORIGINAL FILINGS AND TRANSFERS IN.  
CASES DISPOSED INCLUDES CASES TERMINATED AND TRANSFERS OUT.