

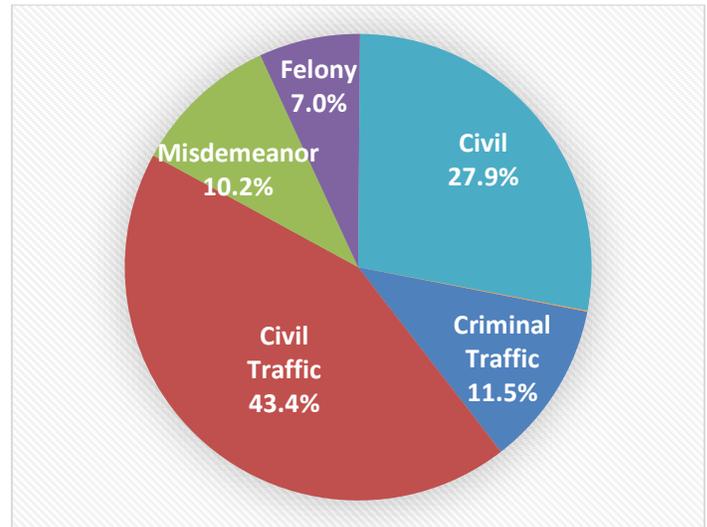
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS Narrative Summary

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.

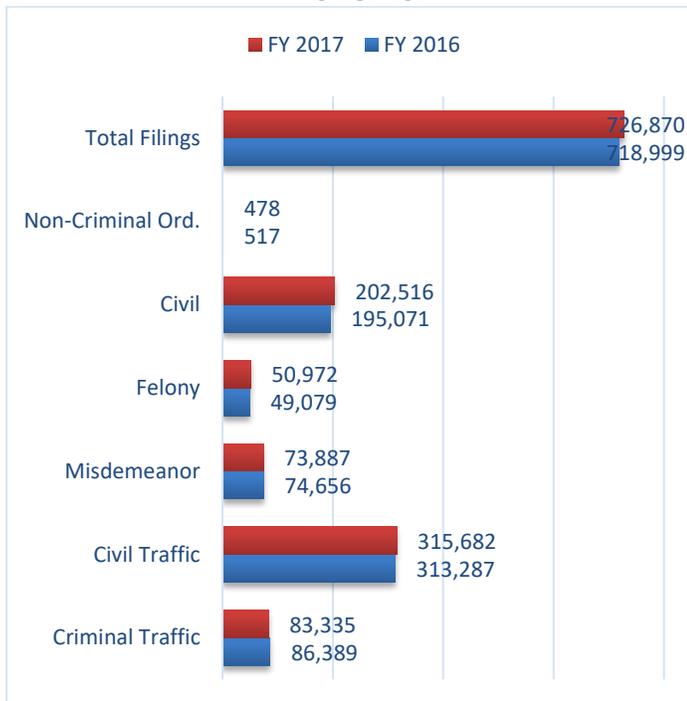
From FY 2016 to FY 2017, case filings in the justice courts increased 1.1% while case terminations decreased 1.9%, resulting in a pending caseload increase of 1.4%. Civil filings, which account for 27.9% of all filings, increased by 7,445 cases or 3.8% from FY 2016 to FY 2017. The criminal traffic category had the largest decrease in filings, down 3.5% from 86,389 to 83,335 in FY 2017. Within the criminal category, misdemeanor failure to appear violations decreased from 14,400 in FY 2016 to 13,047 in FY 2017, a decrease of 9.4%. Civil traffic filings, the largest case type category in justice courts, experienced a slight increase of 2,395 filings, a less than 1% change from the previous year.

Statewide, justice courts terminated 753,958 cases during FY 2017, a 1.9% decrease over the 768,937 cases terminated the previous fiscal year. The justice courts maintained a positive clearance rate of 103.7% during FY 2017 reflecting the courts continued efforts to process cases efficiently.

**JUSTICE COURT
PROPORTION OF FILINGS BY CASE TYPE
FY 2017**



**JUSTICE COURT
FILINGS BY CASE TYPE
FY 2016-2017**



Both petitions for orders of protection and injunctions against harassment decreased from FY 2016 to FY2017. Orders of Protection decreased by 2.0% while injunctions against harassment decreased by 3.5% during the same period. In addition to the 15,040 initial protective order petitions filed, the justice courts held an additional 3,132 protective order review hearings during the fiscal year.

Other proceedings held in the courts included 42,527 civil traffic hearings, 47,151 criminal initial appearances, and 2,857 civil small claims hearings during FY 2017. The justice courts held an additional 5,650 court and jury trials during FY 2017, down 10.1% from FY 2016.

As of June 30, 2017, a total of 178,993 total warrants were outstanding, a 2.0% increase from the 175,561 warrants outstanding at the end of FY 2016.

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 2017

STATEWIDE TOTAL

ALL CASES ON FILE

CASE TYPE	PENDING 7/1/2016	CASES FILED			FISCAL YEAR 2016		
		ORIGINAL FILINGS	TRANSFER IN	TOTAL FILED	TOTAL ON FILE	PENDING 7/1/2015	TOTAL FILED
DUI	35,126	17,844	81	17,925	53,051	36,628	19,286
SERIOUS TRAFFIC	4,653	3,163	7	3,170	7,823	4,664	3,085
OTHER TRAFFIC	<u>56,197</u>	<u>62,150</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>62,240</u>	<u>118,437</u>	<u>58,969</u>	<u>64,018</u>
TOTAL CR TRAF	95,976	83,157	178	83,335	179,311	100,261	86,389
TOTAL CV TRAF	103,275	315,624	58	315,682	418,957	101,515	313,287
MISDEMEANOR	178,702	60,745	95	60,840	239,542	176,260	60,256
MISDEMEANOR FTA	37,026	7,366	0	7,366	44,392	38,990	6,602
TRAFFIC FTA	<u>77,324</u>	<u>5,681</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,681</u>	<u>83,005</u>	<u>77,546</u>	<u>7,798</u>
TOTAL MISD	293,052	73,792	95	73,887	366,939	292,796	74,656
TOTAL FELONY	35,546	50,939	33	50,972	86,518	40,422	49,079
SMALL CLAIMS	15,796	17,262	51	17,313	33,109	16,138	17,574
FORCIBLE DETAINER	4,873	81,441	70	81,511	86,384	5,348	80,525
OTHER CIVIL	<u>66,649</u>	<u>102,881</u>	<u>811</u>	<u>103,692</u>	<u>170,341</u>	<u>73,264</u>	<u>96,972</u>
TOTAL CIVIL	87,318	201,584	932	202,516	289,834	94,750	195,071
NC PARKING	721	249		249	970	755	363
NC NON-PARKING	<u>64</u>	<u>229</u>		<u>229</u>	<u>293</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>154</u>
TOTAL NON-CR ORD	785	478		478	1,263	832	517
TOTAL	615,952	725,574	1,296	726,870	1,342,822	630,576	718,999
ORD PROTECTION				8,973			9,153
INJ HARASSMENT				6,067			6,284

TRIALS COMMENCED

CASE TYPE	NON-JURY	JURY	TOTAL	FISCAL YEAR 2016		
				NON-JURY	JURY	TOTAL
CRIMINAL TRAFFIC	513	131	644	479	228	707
MISDEMEANOR	1,411	32	1,443	1,623	45	1,668
CIVIL	3,542	21	3,563	3,887	22	3,909
TOTAL	5,466	184	5,650	5,989	295	6,284

OUTSTANDING WARRANTS - END-OF-YEAR

TRAFFIC	6/30/2017	6/30/2016	CRIMINAL	6/30/2017	6/30/2016
DUI	15,163	15,358			
SERIOUS TRAFFIC	2,015	1,990	FELONY	11,958	12,033
OTHER TRAFFIC	<u>80,376</u>	<u>77,563</u>	MISDEMEANOR	<u>69,481</u>	<u>68,617</u>
SUBTOTAL	97,554	94,911	SUBTOTAL	81,439	80,650
TOTAL ALL WARRANTS				178,993	175,561

JUSTICE COURT CASE ACTIVITY
FISCAL YEAR 2017

STATEWIDE TOTAL (CONTINUED)

ALL CASES TERMINATED							
CASE TYPE	CASES TERMINATED			STAT CORR	PENDING 6/30/2017	FISCAL YEAR 2016	
	TERMINATIONS	TRANSFER OUT	TOTAL TERM			TOTAL TERM	PENDING 6/30/2016
DUI	18,967	153	19,120	980	34,911	20,254	35,126
SERIOUS TRAFFIC	3,270	25	3,295	116	4,644	3,213	4,653
OTHER TRAFFIC	<u>60,574</u>	<u>182</u>	<u>60,756</u>	<u>-431</u>	<u>57,250</u>	<u>65,678</u>	<u>56,197</u>
TOTAL CR TRAF	82,811	360	83,171	665	96,805	89,145	95,976
TOTAL CV TRAF[1]	326,880	250	327,130	15,661	107,488	321,931	103,275
MISDEMEANOR	72,922	921	73,843	9,743	175,442	72,162	178,702
MISDEMEANOR FTA	7,819	10	7,829	334	36,897	8,445	37,026
TRAFFIC FTA	<u>5,758</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,758</u>	<u>464</u>	<u>77,711</u>	<u>8,459</u>	<u>77,324</u>
TOTAL MISD	86,499	931	87,430	10,541	290,050	89,066	293,052
TOTAL FELONY	49,794	6,214	56,008	6,533	37,043	61,049	35,546
SMALL CLAIMS	17,858	62	17,920	393	15,582	19,411	15,796
FORCIBLE DETAINER	81,137	80	81,217	55	5,222	82,349	4,873
OTHER CIVIL	<u>99,749</u>	<u>832</u>	<u>100,581</u>	<u>1,817</u>	<u>71,577</u>	<u>105,436</u>	<u>66,649</u>
TOTAL CIVIL	198,744	974	199,718	2,265	92,381	207,196	87,318
NC PARKING	271		271	3	702	377	721
NC NON-PARKING	<u>230</u>		<u>230</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>64</u>
TOTAL NON-CR ORD	501		501	15	777	550	785
TOTAL	745,229	8,729	753,958	35,680	624,544	768,937	615,952
	<u>ISSUED</u>	<u>DENIED</u>					
ORD PROTECTION	8,341	634	8,975			8,943	
INJ HARASSMENT	5,037	889	5,926			6,076	

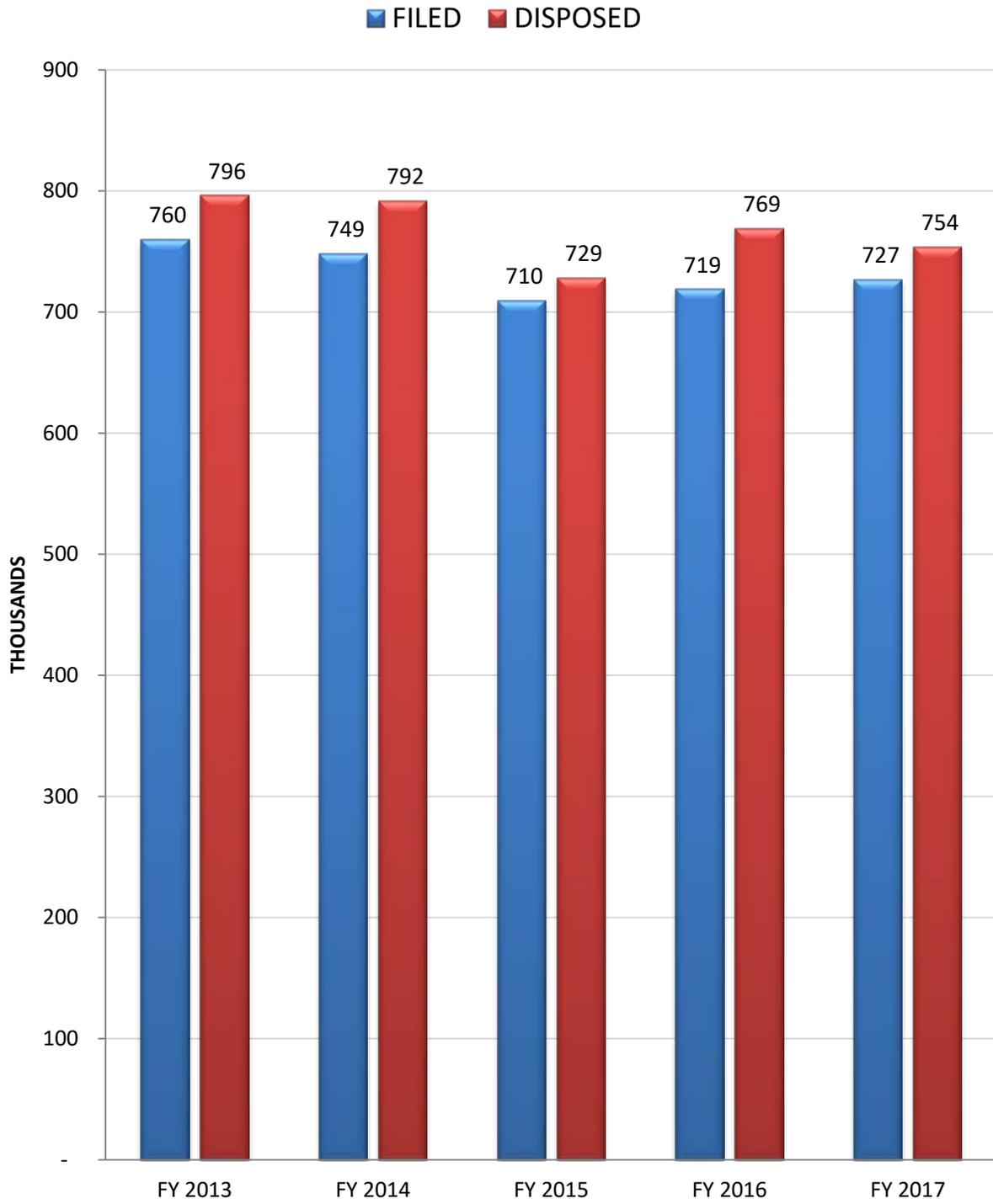
[1] TERMINATIONS INCLUDE DEFAULT JUDGMENTS.

OTHER PROCEEDINGS		
	FY 2017	FY 2016
SMALL CLAIMS HEARINGS/DEFAULTS	2,449	2,722
SMALL CLAIMS HEARINGS (W/HEARING OFFICER)	408	348
CIVIL TRAFFIC HEARINGS	42,527	45,048
FELONY PRELIMINARY HEARINGS	1,283	703
INITIAL APPEARANCES	47,151	53,709
ORDER OF PROTECTION REVIEW HEARINGS	1,989	2,151
INJUNCTION AGAINST HARASSMENT REVIEW HEARINGS	1,143	1,267
PEACE BOND COMPLAINTS	0	0
FUGITIVE COMPLAINTS	446	449
JUVENILE HEARINGS	289	354
SEARCH WARRANTS ISSUED	3,695	3,464

JUSTICE COURT

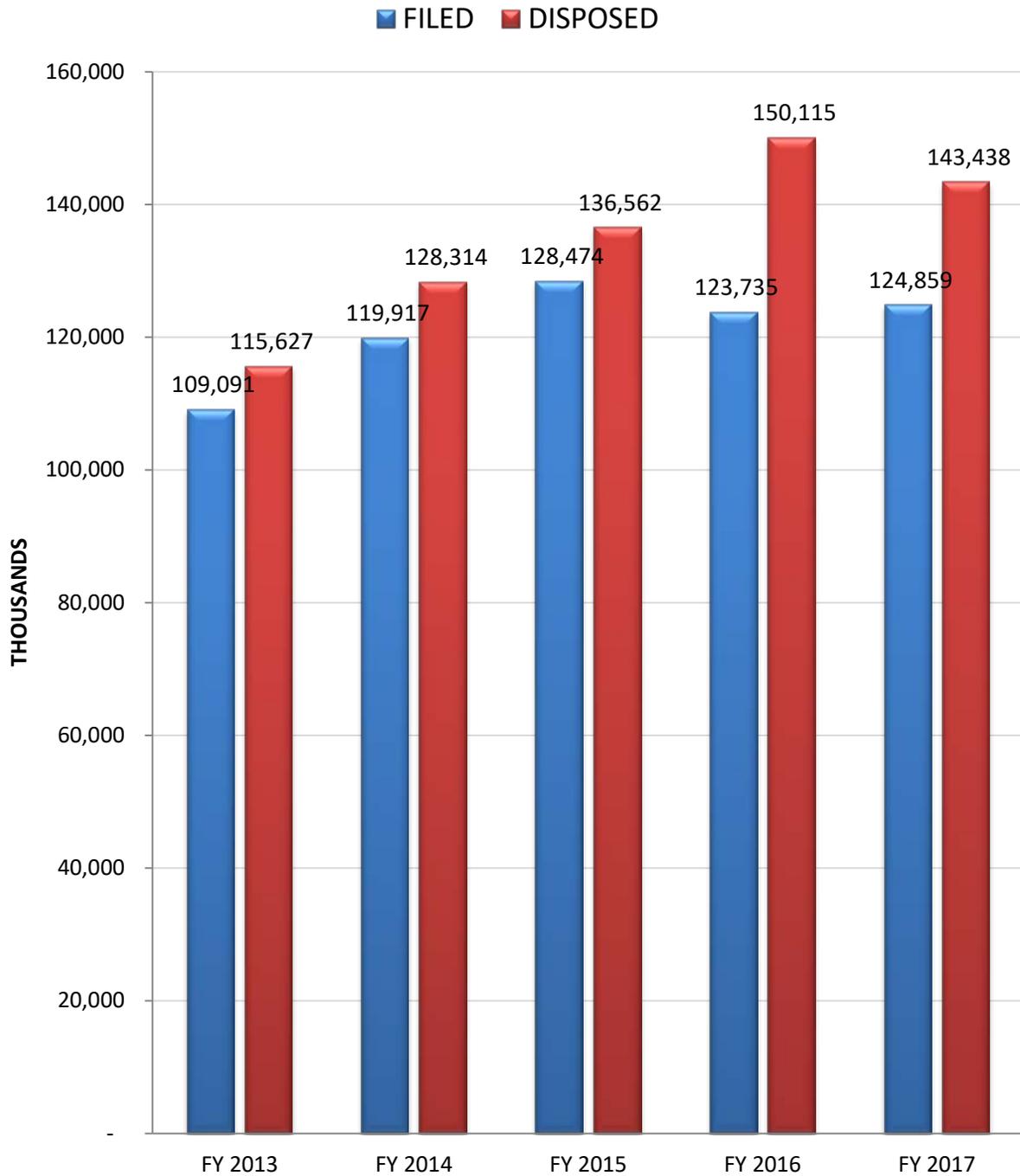
ANNUAL CASE ACTIVITY, FY 2013 - 2017

CASES FILED AND DISPOSED



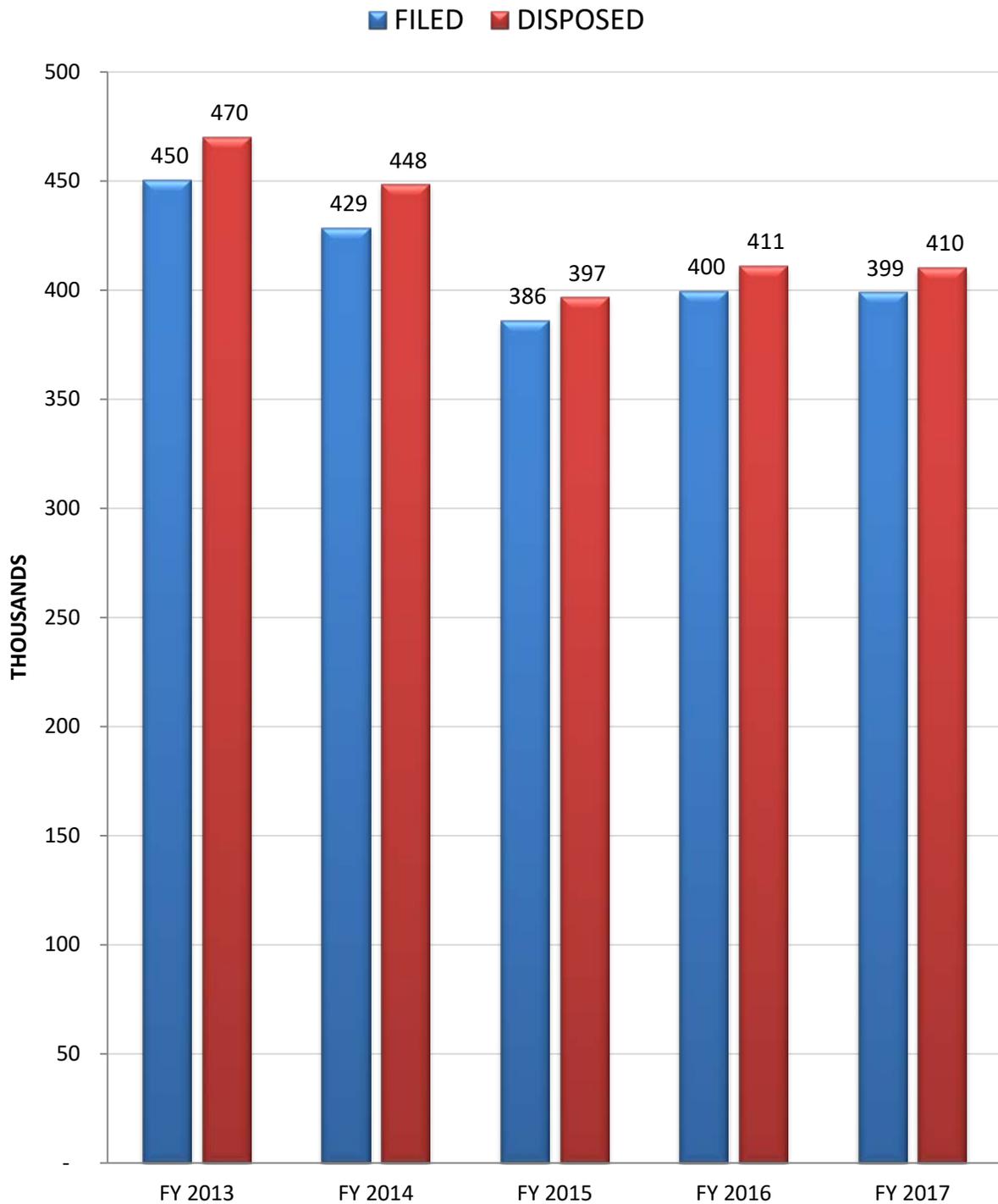
CASES FILED INCLUDES ORIGINAL FILINGS AND TRANSFERS IN.
CASES DISPOSED INCLUDES CASES TERMINATED AND TRANSFERS OUT.

JUSTICE COURT CRIMINAL CASE ACTIVITY, FY 2013 - 2017 CASES FILED AND DISPOSED



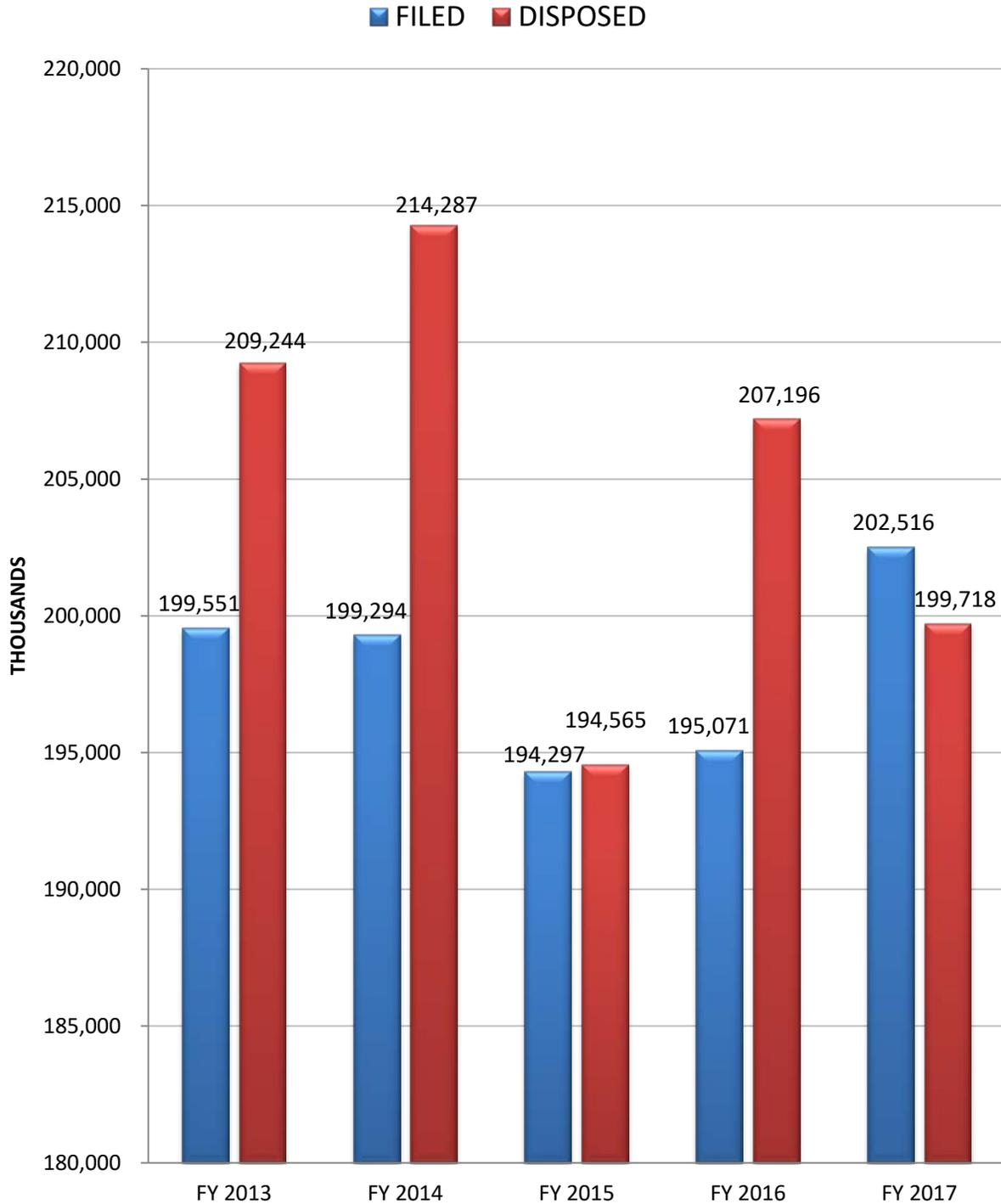
CASES FILED INCLUDES ORIGINAL FILINGS AND TRANSFERS IN.
CASES DISPOSED INCLUDES CASES TERMINATED AND TRANSFERS OUT.

JUSTICE COURT TRAFFIC CASE ACTIVITY, FY 2013 - 2017 CASES FILED AND DISPOSED



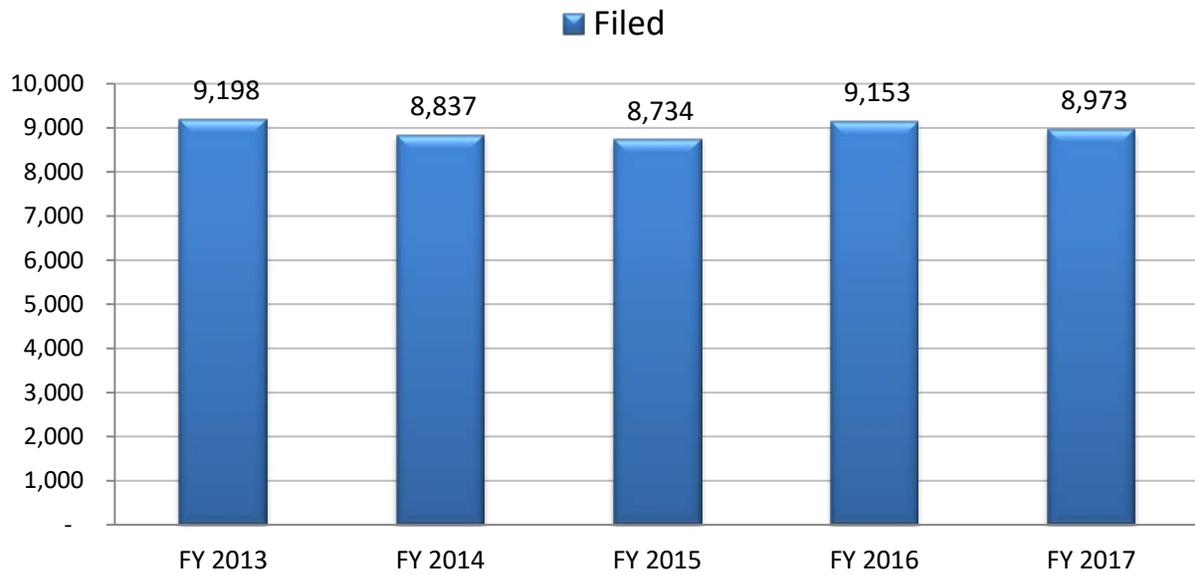
CASES FILED INCLUDES ORIGINAL FILINGS AND TRANSFERS IN.
CASES DISPOSED INCLUDES CASES TERMINATED AND TRANSFERS OUT.

JUSTICE COURT CIVIL CASE ACTIVITY, FY 2013 - 2017 CASES FILED AND DISPOSED



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

**JUSTICE COURT
PETITIONS FOR ORDERS OF PROTECTION
FY 2013 - FY 2017**



**JUSTICE COURT
PETITIONS FOR INJUNCTIONS AGAINST HARASSMENT
FY 2013 - FY 2017**

