

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MISSION: To administer justice by providing a safe, accessible, efficient, and impartial system of dispute resolution that serves the public interest, protects individual rights, and instills respect for the law.

MAINE STATE COURTS: AT A GLANCE



POPULATION OF MAINE.....	1,331,479
GEOGRAPHIC AREA.....	30,843 sq. mi.
COURT LOCATIONS.....	36

FY16 EXPENDITURES:

Judicial Branch Operations.....	\$53,438,171
Personal Services.....	\$39,317,019
All Other/Capital Operation Expenses.....	\$14,121,152
Guardians ad Litem and Psychological Exams.....	\$3,475,013
Debt Service.....	\$10,312,206

TOTAL: \$67,225,390

% of State General Fund.....2.0%

FY16 REVENUE:

Deposited to Maine's General Fund.....	\$28,225,575
Deposited to State Dedicated Revenue Accounts.....	\$8,353,009

TOTAL: \$36,578,584

JUDGES (Total).....63

Supreme Judicial Court Justices.....	7
Superior Court Justices.....	17
District Court Judges.....	39

FAMILY LAW MAGISTRATES8

STAFF450

Clerks' Offices.....	247.5
Security.....	84
Administration.....	38
Research.....	24
Violations Bureau & Service Center.....	19.5
Finance & Human Resources.....	15
Office of Information Technology.....	14
Official Court Reporters.....	8

TOTAL: 521

TOTAL FY16 CASES FILED204,982

Supreme Judicial Court.....	652
Superior Court.....	5,985
Unified Criminal Docket.....	59,718
District Court.....	49,757
Violations Bureau.....	88,870



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

CHILDREN FIRST

With the enactment of "Home Court" and the Maine Parentage Acts, the 127th Legislature paved the way for more efficient handling of all family matters cases involving the same child.

Before the new laws took effect, the Probate Court heard some matters for a child, while the District Court heard other matters involving the same child. This need to proceed in two courts increased the burden of litigation, took additional time, and could be confusing for families.



From the date the legislation became effective on July 29, 2016, judges from the state and county systems, clerks, probate registers, and members of the public worked diligently to create new procedures and forms. Training took place for District Court judges and clerks responsible for implementing the new law.

Within the first 10 weeks after the effective date of the Home Court Act, 121 new cases, or cases transferred from the Probate Courts, were filed in the District Court. By the end of 2016, over 290 adoptions, guardianship filings, and name change cases had been filed in the District Court, and its judges had completed 182 of those cases. The review of processes and procedures is ongoing to assure the needs of children receive the highest priority.

E-FILING COMING TO THE COURTS



After several years of planning and an extensive competitive bid process, the Judicial Branch awarded a contract to Tyler Technologies to purchase and implement new case management software. This multimillion-dollar contract will take approximately five years to implement statewide.

For 200 years, the Judicial Branch

has been a paper-based court system. All case filings, other court documents and orders have been on paper. In the future, court users will be able to initiate cases and file motions remotely 24-hours a day, every day of the week. Litigants will be able to access their case files without having to travel to a courthouse. Multiple users will be able to simultaneously view court information. Among its many benefits, the system will include scheduling of court events, as well as the tracking of bail, warrants, and protection orders. It will greatly enhance public safety and accessibility. The system will also include advanced security measures to protect the integrity of court files and personal data. Ultimately, the courts will be able to better utilize courthouse space currently used for storage.

THE COURTS OF MAINE

SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT



From Left to Right: Justice Jeffrey L. Hjelm, Justice Ellen A. Gorman, Justice Donald G. Alexander, Chief Justice Leigh I. Saufley, Justice Andrew M. Mead, Justice Joseph M. Jabar, Justice Thomas E. Humphrey

CHIEFS



From Left to Right: Leigh I. Saufley, Chief Justice, Supreme Judicial Court; Roland A. Cole, Chief Justice, Superior Court; Charles C. LaVerdiere, Chief Judge, District Court

STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR



Ted Glessner
State Court Administrator

JUDICIAL OFFICERS



Maine Judicial Branch judicial officers gathered at the Capital Judicial Center in March 2015

NEW & RENOVATED COURTHOUSES

In 2016 the Washington County Courthouse addition in Machias was completed and the Capital Judicial Center in Augusta saw its first full year of operation. These building projects concluded the most recent cycle of court construction and renovation aimed at improving court facilities for Maine people.

Looking forward, the Legislature approved bonding for three new projects: a modern addition to the Oxford County Superior Court, which will house both the District and Superior courts, to be completed in 2020; a new courthouse in Belfast that will open in 2019 that will combine the Waldo County Superior Court and the Belfast District Court; and a new courthouse, to consolidate all courthouse functions in a single facility in York County. A Biddeford site was chosen after extensive work by a stakeholder commission created by the Legislature to determine the site. Even with the planned completion of all three of these projects by 2021, the Judicial Branch will still have many aging facilities that will require replacement or renovation.



Washington County Courthouse in Machias

TOTAL FY16 COURT CASE FILINGS: 204,982

CRIMINAL FILINGS: 51,762

Unified Criminal Docket (UCD).....	47,666
UCD Probation Revocations.....	1,704
District Court Probation Revocations.....	138
Superior Court Probation Revocations....	2,254

The Unified Criminal Docket (UCD), completed statewide in 2016, transformed the two-tiered trial court system into a single more efficient process for criminal and some civil violation cases.

FAMILY DIVISION: 21,955

Divorce.....	5,617
Family Post-Judgment.....	5,933
Protection from Abuse.....	5,461
Child Protective.....	877
Juvenile.....	1,798
Parental Rights & Responsibilities.....	1,907
Foreign Judgments.....	143
Emancipations.....	105
Grandparents' Rights.....	23
Other Family Matters.....	91

CIVIL FILINGS: 27,950

	SUPERIOR	DISTRICT
Contract	476	3,647
Foreclosure	924	1,751
Tort	929	114
Other Civil	1,402	877
Small Claims		10,106
Money Judgments		1,888
FEDs (Eviction)		5,836
TOTAL(S):	3,731	24,219

OTHER ACTIONS: 13,793

Mental Health (District Court).....	893
Protection from Harassment (District Court).....	2,552
Civil Violations (UCD).....	10,348

SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT: 652

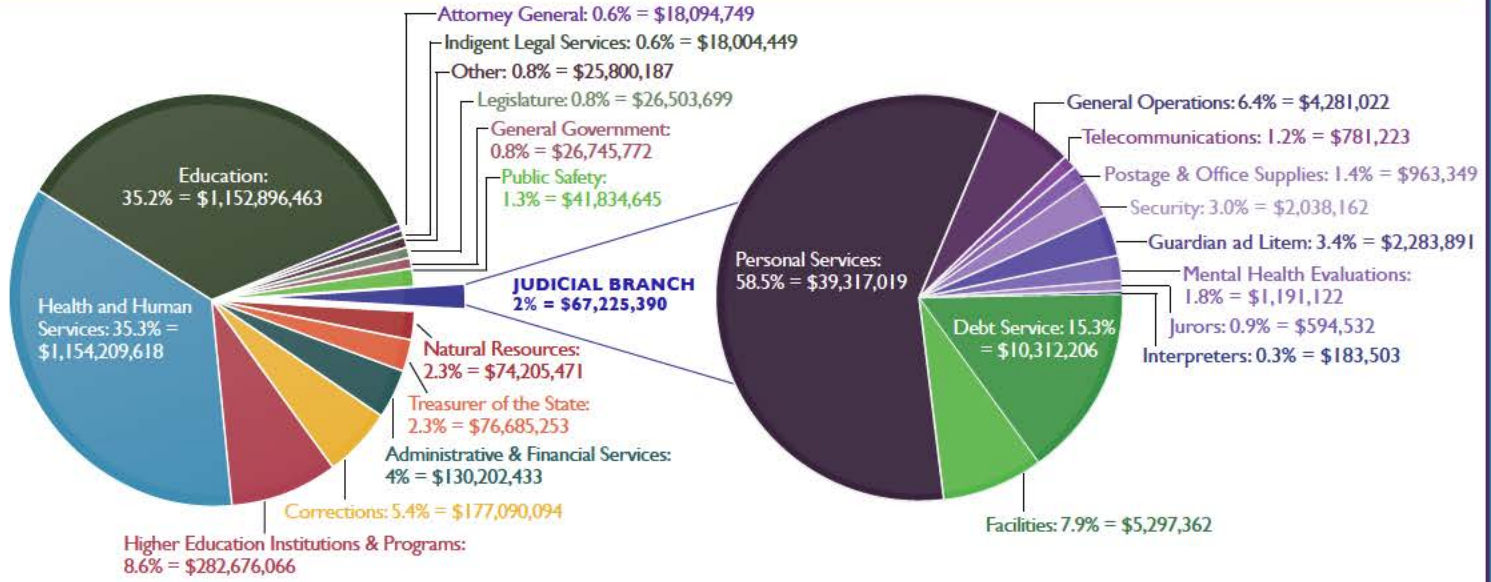
Supreme Judicial Court.....	652
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VIOLATIONS BUREAU: 88,870

Traffic Infractions.....	88,870
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FISCAL INFORMATION

GENERAL FUND AND JUDICIAL BRANCH EXPENDITURES



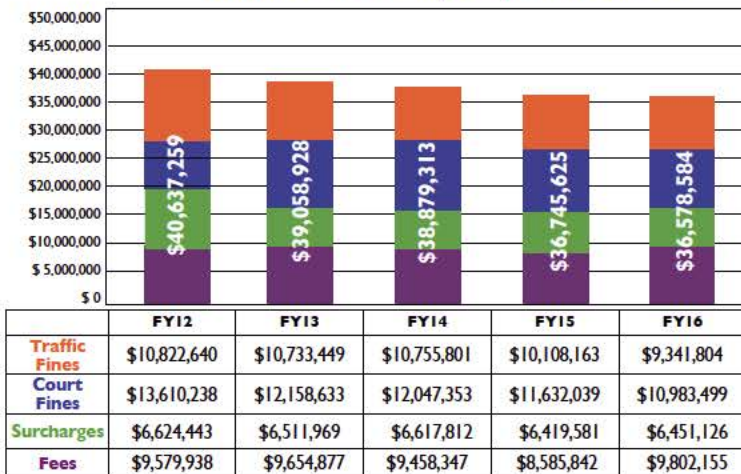
**STATEWIDE GENERAL FUND
FY16 EXPENDITURES**
Total: \$3,272,174,288

**JUDICIAL BRANCH GENERAL FUND
FY16 EXPENDITURES**
Total: \$67,225,390

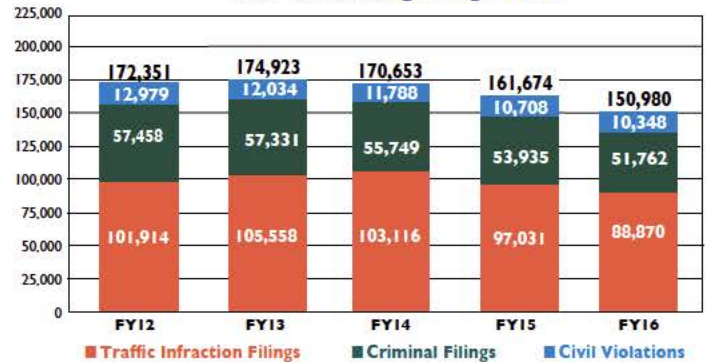
In FY16, General Funds received by the Judicial Branch were 2% of the State total. Personal Services accounted for more than half (58.5%) of Judicial Branch expenditures.

FY16 REVENUE

Revenue Collected by the Judicial Branch



Fine-Generating Filings Trend

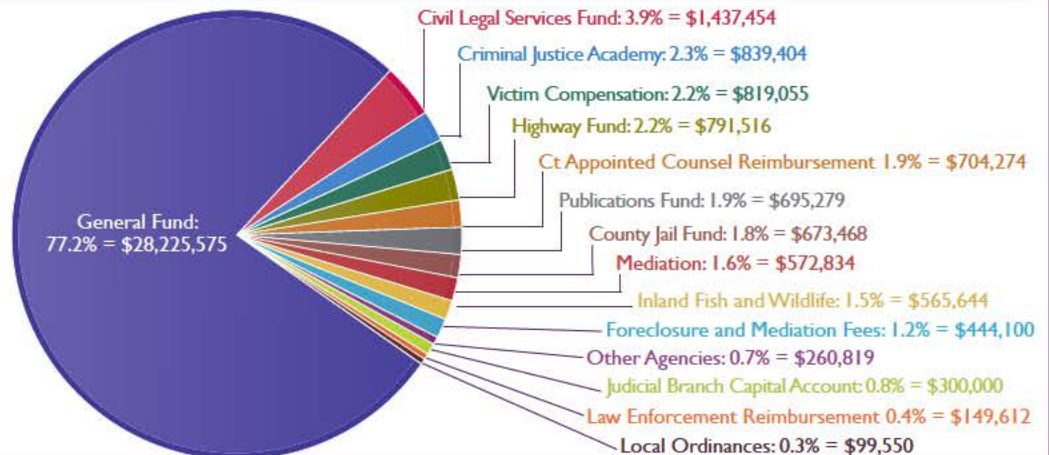


Fine and related surcharge revenue has decreased in recent years. A primary cause for the reduction is the decline in the number of criminal cases, civil violations, and traffic infractions filed in the courts, as illustrated by the chart above.

REVENUE DISTRIBUTED BY THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

FY16 Revenue Distribution
Total: \$36,578,584

All revenue collected by the Judicial Branch is deposited into the State's General Fund and to other State dedicated accounts as required by Maine Statutes. Sources of revenue include fees, fines, and surcharges.



COURT REGIONS AND CASES FILED

REGION 5
CASE TOTAL 16,225
REGIONAL POPULATION 169,623
COURT LOCATIONS 5

PENOBSCOT 3,397 sq. miles/pop. 152,692
 Bangor Superior 389
 Penobscot UCD 8,154
 Bangor District 4,347
 Newport District 1,138
 Lincoln/Millinocket District 768

PISCATAQUIS 3,961 sq. miles/pop. 16,931
 Dover-Foxcroft Superior 29
 Piscataquis UCD 820
 Dover-Foxcroft District 580

REGION 4
CASE TOTAL 17,169
REGIONAL POPULATION 171,093
COURT LOCATIONS 4

SOMERSET 3,924 sq. miles/pop. 51,113
 Skowhegan Superior 155
 Somerset UCD 2,431
 Skowhegan District 2,120

KENNEBEC 868 sq. miles/pop. 119,980
 Augusta Superior 800
 Kennebec UCD 6,092
 Augusta District 3,245
 Waterville District 2,326

REGION 3
CASE TOTAL 18,818
REGIONAL POPULATION 194,426
COURT LOCATIONS 7

FRANKLIN 1,697 sq. miles/pop. 29,991
 Farmington Superior 84
 Franklin UCD 1,600
 Farmington District 1,110

OXFORD 2,077 sq. miles/pop. 57,202
 South Paris Superior 284
 Oxford UCD 2,562
 South Paris District 1,155
 Rumford District 813

ANDROSCOGGIN 468 sq. miles/pop. 107,233
 Auburn Superior 664
 Androscoggin UCD 5,104
 Lewiston District 5,442

REGION 2
CASE TOTAL 19,622
REGIONAL POPULATION 289,977
COURT LOCATIONS 2

CUMBERLAND 835 sq. miles/pop. 289,977
 Portland Superior 970
 Cumberland UCD 10,531
 Portland District 6,783
 Bridgton District 1,338

REGION 1
CASE TOTAL 17,818
REGIONAL POPULATION 201,169
COURT LOCATIONS 4

YORK 991 sq. miles/pop. 201,169
 Alfred Superior 1,182
 York UCD 9,645
 Biddeford District 3,271
 Springvale District 2,639
 York District 1,081

REGION 8
CASE TOTAL 6,307
REGIONAL POPULATION 68,628
COURT LOCATIONS 5

AROOSTOOK 6,671 sq. miles/pop. 68,628
 Caribou/Houlton Superior 482
 Aroostook UCD 3,138
 Caribou District 699
 Houlton District 540
 Presque Isle District 962
 Fort Kent/Madawaska District 486

REGION 7
CASE TOTAL 7,084
REGIONAL POPULATION 86,284
COURT LOCATIONS 3

HANCOCK 1,587 sq. miles/pop. 54,659
 Ellsworth Superior 174
 Hancock UCD 2,332
 Ellsworth District 1,766

WASHINGTON 2,563 sq. miles/pop. 31,625
 Machias Superior 102
 Washington UCD 1,534
 Machias District 668
 Calais District 508

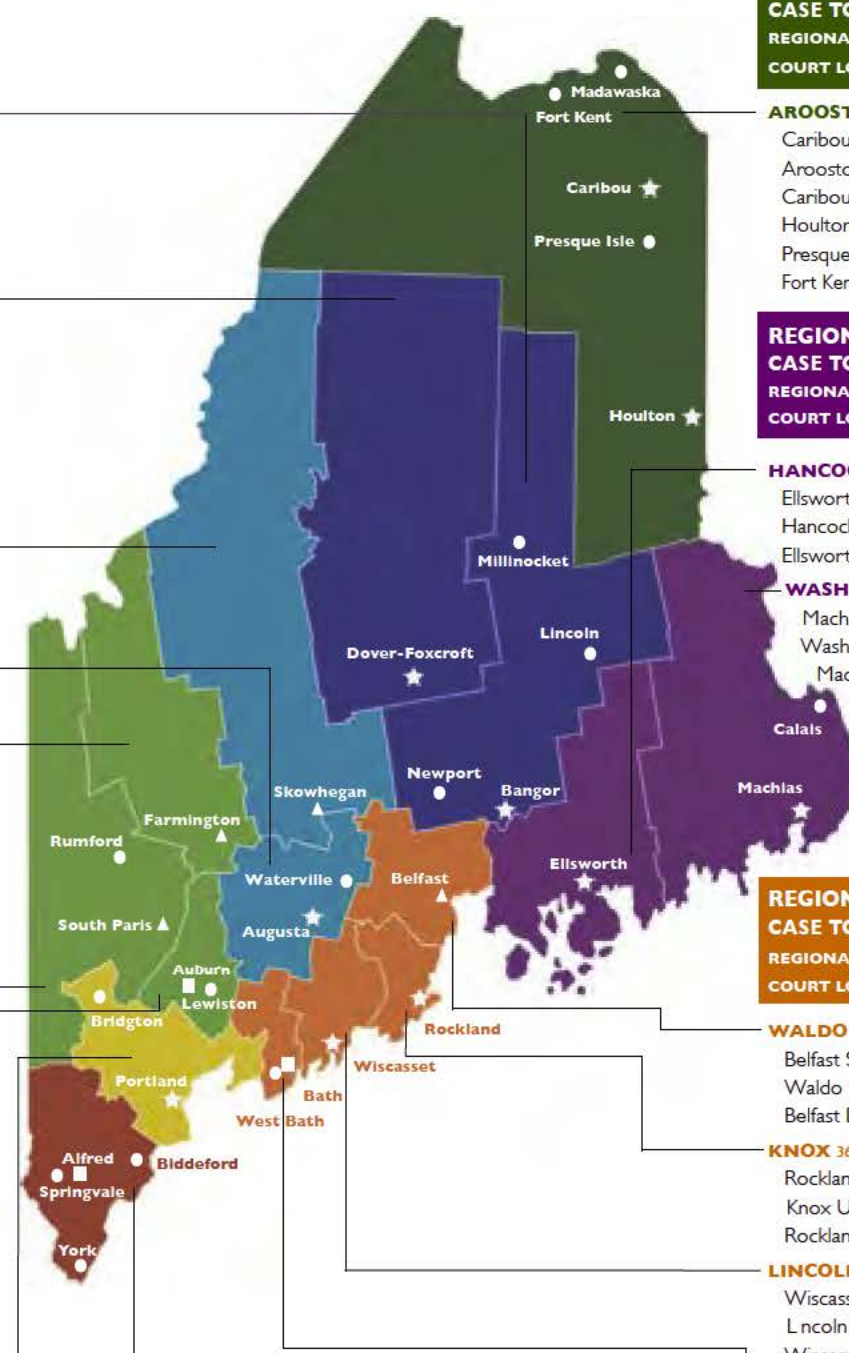
REGION 6
CASE TOTAL 12,439
REGIONAL POPULATION 148,128
COURT LOCATIONS 6

WALDO 730 sq. miles/pop. 39,155
 Belfast Superior 152
 Waldo UCD 1,363
 Belfast District 1,449

KNOX 365 sq. miles/pop. 39,855
 Rockland Superior 271
 Knox UCD 1,739
 Rockland District 1,268

LINCOLN 456 sq. miles/pop. 33,969
 Wiscasset Superior 149
 Lincoln UCD 1,169
 Wiscasset District 1,041

SAGadahoc 254 sq. miles/pop. 35,149
 Bath Superior 98
 Sagadahoc UCD 1,504
 West Bath District 2,236



KEY

- District Court
- Superior Court
- ▲ District and Superior in the same city/town
- ★ District and Superior Court occupy the same building

Counties grouped together by color are part of a single court **REGION**, where resources and scheduling are coordinated.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For more information about the Courts
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS
 PO Box 4820
 Portland, ME 04112-4820
 (207) 822-0792 711 (Maine Relay)

Visit the website: courts.maine.gov
 or scan the QR code

TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS
 Total: 88,870

* Square mileage and population data source: US Census Bureau 2015 Estimates