

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.....	1,335,907
GEOGRAPHIC AREA.....	30,843 sq. mi.
COURT LOCATIONS.....	36

FY17 EXPENDITURES:

Judicial Branch Operations.....	\$56,920,645
Personal Services.....	\$42,664,575
All Other/Capital Operation Expenses.....	\$14,256,070
Guardians ad Litem and Psychological Exams.....	\$3,701,782
Debt Service.....	\$10,249,078

TOTAL: \$70,871,505

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

FY17 REVENUE:

Deposited to Maine's General Fund.....	\$27,036,686
Deposited to State Dedicated Revenue Accounts.....	\$8,369,444

TOTAL: \$35,406,130

JUDGES (Total).....63

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

FAMILY LAW MAGISTRATES8

STAFF447.5

Clerks' Offices.....	254.5
Security.....	.83
Administration.....	37.5
Research.....	25
Violations Bureau & Service Center.....	17.5
Finance & Human Resources.....	11
Office of Information Technology.....	11
Official Court Reporters.....	8

TOTAL: 518.5

TOTAL FY17 CASES FILED 193,155

Supreme Judicial Court.....	590
Superior Court.....	3,966
Unified Criminal Docket.....	54,706
District Court.....	47,857
Violations Bureau.....	86,036



THE YEAR IN REVIEW



Task Force on Transparency and Privacy in Court Records

As part of the Supreme Judicial Court's effort to gather information and feedback for use when developing digital court record access policies, in early 2017, Chief Justice Saufley convened the Task Force on Transparency and Privacy in Court Records (TAP) to consider relevant issues and make recommendations to the Court. TAP was made up of 20 stakeholders including subject matter experts representing various perspectives. TAP members gathered to review research, and attended public meetings where they weighed and debated the important interests of transparency and privacy.

In early fall, TAP delivered a comprehensive report, including 18 recommendations regarding court record access. In October, the SJC invited the public to submit comments regarding TAP's recommendations and access to digital court record policies in general and will schedule a public hearing to be held in the spring of 2018 regarding this vital topic. For more information, visit TAP's webpage at www.courts.maine.gov/committees/tap.



Farewell Judge Janelle

Judge Andre Janelle retired at the end of 2017 after 31 years of service in Maine's District Court. Judge Janelle was appointed to the bench at just 36 years old and, during his many years on the bench, he made a remarkable and lasting impact.

Although there are a few judges who were appointed at a slightly younger age, the Judicial Branch has found no one who has served on the official Maine District Court for as many years as he has. The judge's wisdom, compassion, humor, and, when needed, firmness has created a judicial culture that has earned the respect of all involved.

Through all of these years, Judge Janelle has been a tireless supporter of all of the hard-working members of the Judicial Branch, including the magistrates and judges he has mentored, and especially the clerks and marshals who make it possible for the public to obtain meaningful access to justice.

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; Susan Oram, 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

Court Building Projects

The effort to improve courthouse safety and efficiency is progressing with major building projects in Waldo and Oxford Counties. A new courthouse in Belfast will house the Superior and District Courts in Waldo County with substantially improved accessibility, expanded on-site parking, and ample space for conferencing. Construction is underway in Belfast with projected completion in March 2019. The county courthouse in Oxford County will be renovated and expanded to house the Superior Court and the South Paris District Court, while county office space will be improved. The South Paris project will break ground later this year and be completed in early 2020. People in both counties will benefit from additional courtrooms and space that is larger and better designed to meet the needs of the public.



Architect's rendering of the new courthouse in Belfast.



Architect's rendering of the expanded courthouse in South Paris.

TOTAL FY17 COURT CASE FILINGS: 193,155

CRIMINAL FILINGS: 47,140

Unified Criminal Docket (UCD)	45,251
UCD Probation Revocations	1,281
District Court Probation Revocations	7
Superior Court Probation Revocations	601

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: 22,268

Divorce	5,338
Family Post-Judgment	6,005
Protection from Abuse	5,424
Child Protection	975
Juvenile	1,660
Parental Rights & Responsibilities	1,813
Foreign Judgments	140
Emancipations	144
Grandparents' Rights	29
Other Family Matters	740

CIVIL FILINGS: 25,875

	SUPERIOR	DISTRICT
Contract	434	3,812
Foreclosure	775	1,665
Tort	840	108
Other Civil	1,316	1,513
Small Claims		8,063
Money Judgments		1,568
FEDs (Eviction)		5,781
TOTAL(S):	3,365	22,510

OTHER ACTIONS: 11,246

Mental Health (District Court)	885
Protection from Harassment (District Court)	2,187
Civil Violations (UCD)	8,174

SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT: 590

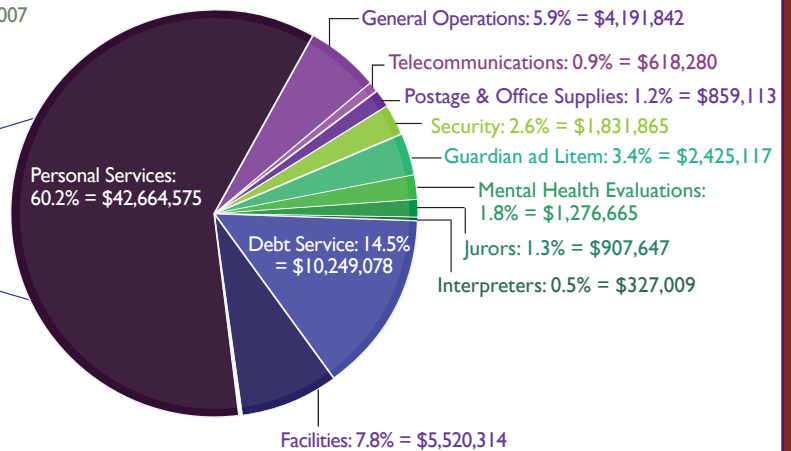
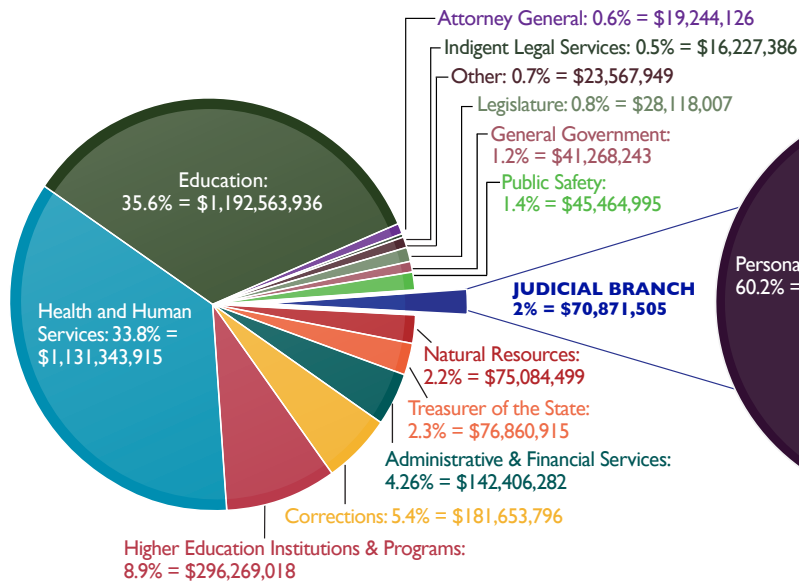
Supreme Judicial Court	590
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VIOLATIONS BUREAU: 86,036

Traffic Infractions	86,036
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FISCAL INFORMATION

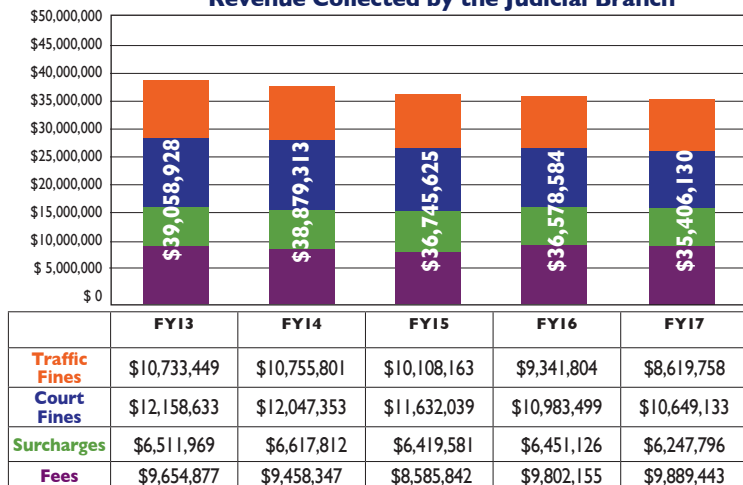
GENERAL FUND AND JUDICIAL BRANCH EXPENDITURES



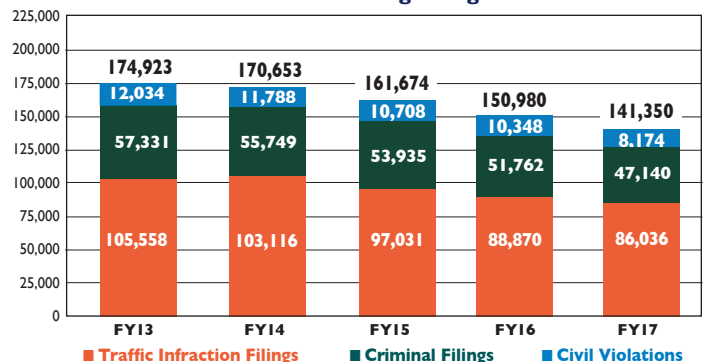
In FY17, General Funds received by the Judicial Branch were 2% of the State total. Personal Services accounted for more than half (60.2%) of Judicial Branch expenditures.

FY17 REVENUE

Revenue Collected by the Judicial Branch



Fine-Generating Filings Trend



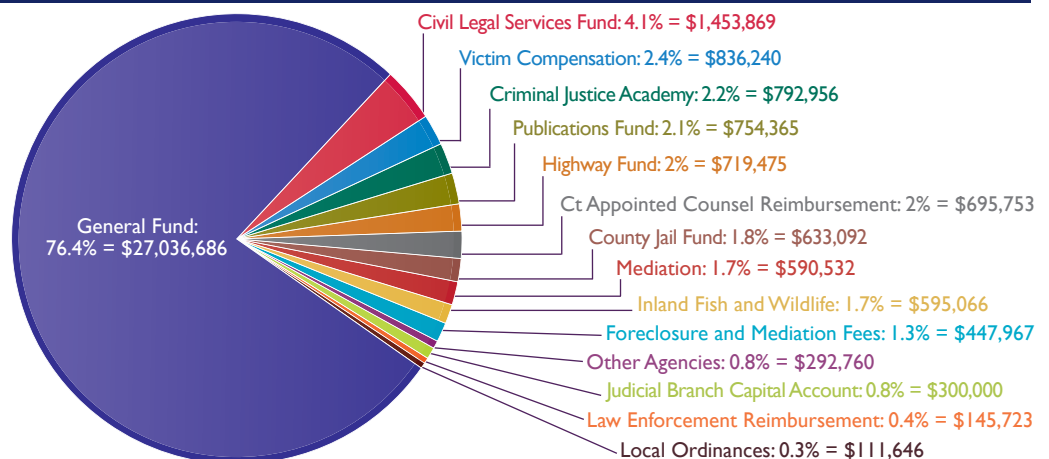
Fine and related surcharge revenue has decreased in recent years. A primary cause for the reduction is the decline in the number of criminal cases, civil violations, and traffic infractions filed in the courts, as illustrated by the chart above.

REVENUE DISTRIBUTED BY THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

FY17 Revenue Distribution

Total: \$35,406,130

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 15,157

REGIONAL POPULATION 168,649

COURT LOCATIONS 5

PENOBSCOT 3,397 sq. miles/pop. 151,806

Bangor Superior.....330

Penobscot UCD.....7,482

Bangor District.....4,263

Newport District.....972

Lincoln/Millinocket District.....751

PISCATAQUIS 3,961 sq. miles/pop. 16,843

Dover-Foxcroft Superior.....21

Piscataquis UCD.....761

Dover-Foxcroft District.....577

REGION 4

CASE TOTAL 15,846

REGIONAL POPULATION 171,484

COURT LOCATIONS 4

SOMERSET 3,924 sq. miles/pop. 50,915

Skowhegan Superior.....107

Somerset UCD.....2,531

Skowhegan District.....1,981

KENNEBEC 868 sq. miles/pop. 120,569

Augusta Superior.....477

Kennebec UCD.....5,278

Augusta District.....3,273

Waterville District.....2,199

REGION 3

CASE TOTAL 16,925

REGIONAL POPULATION 194,537

COURT LOCATIONS 7

FRANKLIN 1,697 sq. miles/pop. 30,001

Farmington Superior.....51

Franklin UCD.....1,504

Farmington District.....1,050

OXFORD 2,077 sq. miles/pop. 57,217

South Paris Superior.....154

Oxford UCD.....2,118

South Paris District.....1,064

Rumford District.....714

ANDROSCOGGIN 468 sq. miles/pop. 107,319

Auburn Superior.....381

Androscoggin UCD.....4,501

Lewiston District.....5,388

REGION 2

CASE TOTAL 18,571

REGIONAL POPULATION 292,041

COURT LOCATIONS 2

CUMBERLAND 835 sq. miles/pop. 292,041

Portland Superior.....874

Cumberland UCD.....10,058

Portland District.....6,396

Bridgton District.....1,243

REGION 1

CASE TOTAL 16,601

REGIONAL POPULATION 202,343

COURT LOCATIONS 4

YORK 991 sq. miles/pop. 202,343

Alfred Superior.....600

York UCD.....9,299

Biddeford District.....3,112

Springvale District.....2,529

York District.....1,061

REGION 8

CASE TOTAL 5,909

REGIONAL POPULATION 67,959

COURT LOCATIONS 5

AROOSTOOK 6,671 sq. miles/pop. 67,959

Caribou/Houlton Superior.....361

Aroostook UCD.....2,849

Caribou District.....627

Houlton District.....628

Presque Isle District.....968

Fort Kent/Madawaska District.....476

REGION 7

CASE TOTAL 6,325

REGIONAL POPULATION 85,869

COURT LOCATIONS 3

HANCOCK 1,587 sq. miles/pop. 54,419

Ellsworth Superior.....134

Hancock UCD.....1,964

Ellsworth District.....1,693

WASHINGTON 2,563 sq. miles/pop. 31,450

Machias Superior.....67

Washington UCD.....1,352

Machias District.....641

Calais District.....474

REGION 6

CASE TOTAL 11,195

REGIONAL POPULATION 148,597

COURT LOCATIONS 6

WALDO 730 sq. miles/pop. 39,364

Belfast Superior.....107

Waldo UCD.....1,103

Belfast District.....1,360

KNOX 365 sq. miles/pop. 39,744

Rockland Superior.....148

Knox UCD.....1,539

Rockland District.....1,309

LINCOLN 456 sq. miles/pop. 34,216

Wiscasset Superior.....84

Lincoln UCD.....1,018

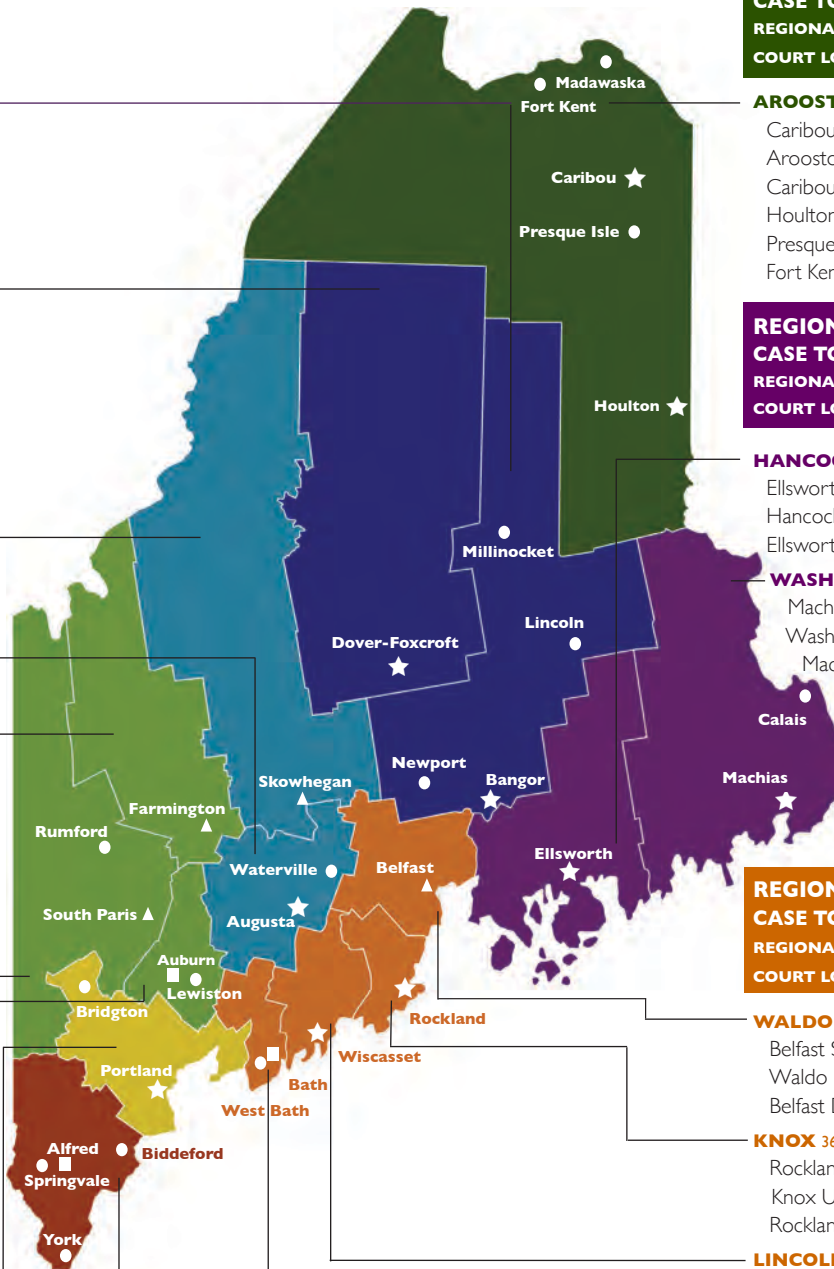
Wiscasset District.....947

SAGadahoc 254 sq. miles/pop. 35,273

Bath Superior.....70

Sagadahoc UCD.....1,349

West Bath District.....2,161



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: 86,036



* Square mileage and population data source: US Census Bureau 2016 Estimates