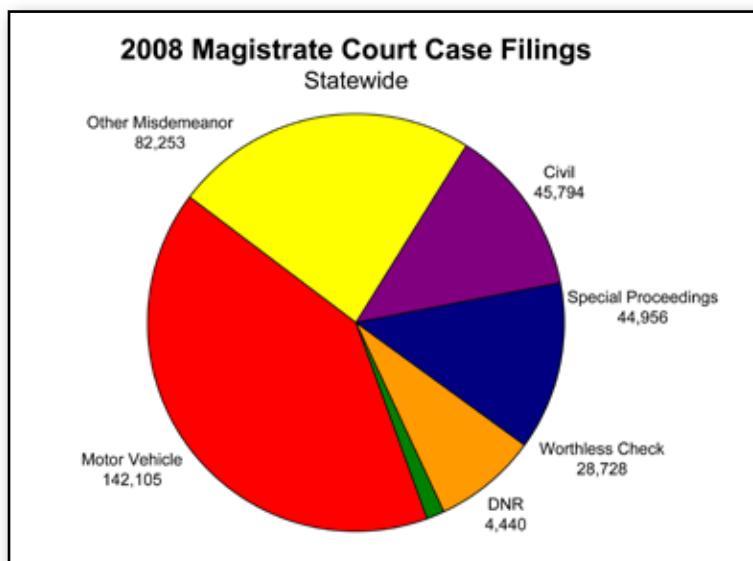


# Magistrate Courts



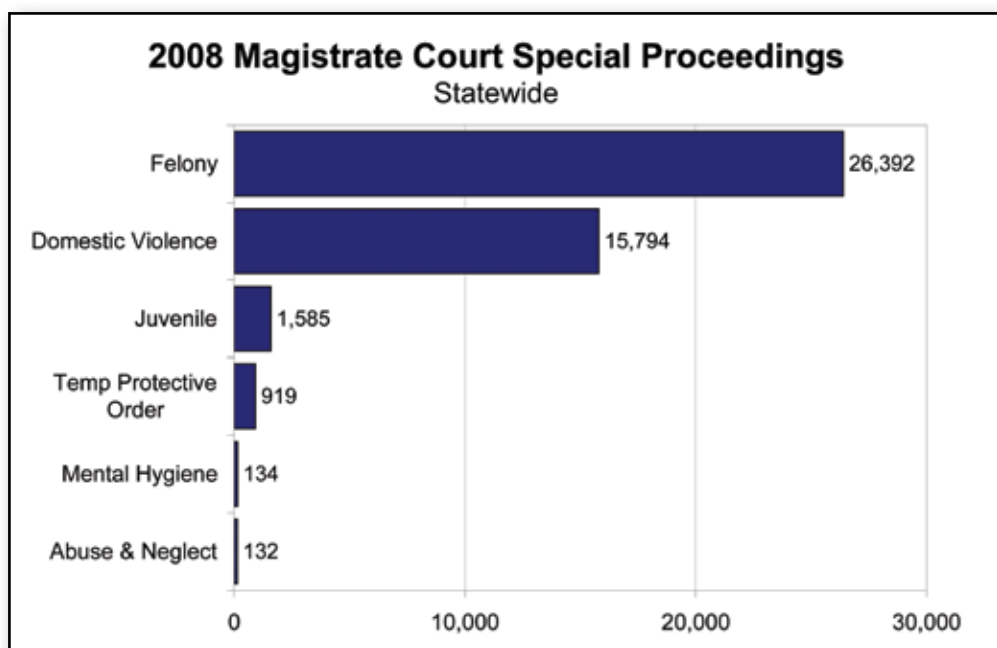
Magistrates run for four-year terms in partisan elections. They do not have to be lawyers.

Circuit judges appoint magistrates to fill vacancies. An appointee who wishes to remain in office must run in the next election.

A county-by-county list of magistrates in West Virginia, along with their office telephone numbers and fax numbers, is available on the Supreme Court Web site at <http://www.state.wv.us/wvsca/maginfo.htm>.

**T**here are 158 magistrates in West Virginia. There are at least two magistrates in every county, and ten in the largest county, Kanawha County. Magistrates issue arrest and search warrants, hear misdemeanor cases, conduct preliminary examinations in felony cases, and hear civil cases with \$5,000 or less in dispute. Magistrates also issue emergency protective orders in cases involving domestic violence. Circuit courts hear appeals of magistrate court cases.

That Web site page also has a list of blank magistrate court forms that can be downloaded and printed for the public's use, rules governing media coverage of magistrate court proceedings, a copy of the "West Virginia Benchbook for Domestic Violence Proceedings," and a domestic violence brochure, among other information.



# Magistrate Court Case Filings

County	Criminal and Civil	Special Proceedings	Total for 2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
Barbour	1,820	324	2,144	2,106	2,207	2,100	2,517	2,988	2,119	2,213	2,453	2,550
Berkeley	18,928	3,158	22,086	20,464	17,820	17,284	19,480	18,768	18,983	20,515	21,667	15,869
Boone	4,556	753	5,309	5,903	5,723	6,142	6,394	5,515	5,061	5,227	4,949	5,395
Braxton	2,781	407	3,188	3,711	3,894	3,944	4,072	3,901	5,004	4,579	4,469	4,287
Brooke	2,493	455	2,948	3,136	3,925	3,992	4,111	3,217	3,158	4,628	4,037	3,914
Cabell	15,487	3,001	18,488	20,355	20,169	21,333	23,391	21,150	19,624	19,164	21,481	22,795
Calhoun	826	96	922	765	773	958	926	839	1,079	933	1,085	869
Clay	1,526	187	1,713	2,534	2,526	2,352	2,500	2,027	1,951	2,628	2,817	3,158
Doddridge	970	135	1,105	1,973	1,276	1,097	1,376	1,346	1,198	1,479	1,801	1,603
Fayette	7,063	1,055	8,118	7,191	7,744	7,851	8,949	7,970	8,476	10,026	11,306	12,095
Gilmer	651	152	803	1,029	1,102	999	699	938	900	1,211	1,165	1,005
Grant	2,120	265	2,385	2,479	2,454	2,743	1,969	1,865	2,501	3,146	3,013	2,382
Greenbrier	4,486	477	4,963	5,053	6,699	6,085	6,715	6,055	6,542	6,560	6,867	7,411
Hampshire	4,274	491	4,765	5,778	6,079	5,808	5,233	4,598	3,807	3,573	3,959	3,254
Hancock	3,496	518	4,014	4,040	3,889	3,801	3,972	4,207	4,672	4,543	4,780	4,226
Hardy	3,156	327	3,483	3,234	4,038	4,364	4,473	3,668	3,730	4,319	4,248	2,943
Harrison	10,761	1,589	12,350	12,725	12,621	12,020	13,322	15,719	14,508	17,911	19,915	19,337
Jackson	3,466	524	3,990	4,483	4,528	4,754	5,118	4,116	3,585	3,890	4,740	5,803
Jefferson	6,587	1,153	7,740	10,531	15,734	10,962	10,578	9,545	8,227	10,985	9,498	10,189
Kanawha	38,960	5,842	44,802	50,477	39,710	41,920	40,458	34,955	39,289	43,690	50,598	46,573
Lewis	4,100	206	4,306	5,399	5,177	4,729	5,611	6,417	5,232	5,314	8,250	8,674
Lincoln	4,074	621	4,695	4,171	3,666	3,314	3,542	3,232	2,773	3,602	3,074	3,465
Logan	9,050	1,299	10,349	11,995	12,133	11,526	11,653	8,768	8,584	9,811	9,740	2,101
Marion	6,347	1,081	7,428	8,035	7,870	7,259	7,716	7,396	8,750	9,533	11,168	11,084
Marshall	3,610	737	4,347	5,153	5,052	4,972	4,751	4,691	6,854	5,915	6,537	6,351
Mason	4,141	594	4,735	5,418	4,530	4,194	5,222	4,005	4,853	5,795	5,729	4,541
McDowell	4,858	1,176	6,034	5,896	5,064	5,732	5,358	5,156	4,373	4,607	4,902	4,713
Mercer	12,141	2,614	14,755	16,942	18,628	20,545	18,802	17,442	21,585	18,232	19,466	18,863
Mineral	4,228	410	4,638	4,574	4,860	4,896	4,824	3,992	3,160	3,437	4,005	3,808
Mingo	6,168	1,315	7,483	7,204	6,061	6,561	5,384	4,363	5,529	5,229	5,598	4,626
Monongalia	12,059	1,450	13,509	13,889	12,970	11,919	13,048	12,298	12,660	14,244	14,800	13,799
Monroe	1,014	341	1,355	1,340	1,334	1,263	1,362	1,499	1,425	1,572	1,736	1,307
Morgan	3,106	206	3,312	3,236	3,221	4,141	3,946	3,670	3,731	3,897	3,008	3,400
Nicholas	5,810	1,458	7,268	6,775	7,657	7,665	7,112	6,409	7,618	8,022	8,683	8,448
Ohio	5,843	883	6,726	7,742	8,862	8,596	10,376	9,861	9,024	9,469	10,715	13,571
Pendleton	831	70	901	727	1,082	1,200	1,279	1,347	1,607	1,921	1,714	1,659
Pleasants	1,159	98	1,257	1,407	1,340	1,195	1,369	1,523	1,438	1,366	1,395	1,147
Pocahontas	1,345	145	1,490	1,950	2,592	1,444	2,159	1,849	1,929	2,445	2,321	2,186
Preston	5,048	573	5,621	5,392	5,909	5,788	5,288	5,481	6,605	5,699	6,409	5,833
Putnam	7,887	846	8,733	8,696	9,641	9,428	10,545	9,557	9,121	9,254	9,544	9,467
Raleigh	14,854	2,254	17,108	18,680	19,937	19,490	21,827	20,676	24,312	24,923	25,121	27,721
Randolph	6,297	602	6,899	6,591	5,845	6,877	7,069	7,592	6,943	8,139	8,390	7,742
Ritchie	3,008	160	3,168	3,850	3,665	3,477	3,287	2,548	2,731	3,386	2,917	2,041
Roane	2,695	374	3,069	3,507	3,518	3,310	3,393	2,683	2,940	3,939	4,340	4,679
Summers	1,560	228	1,788	2,053	1,904	1,780	1,786	1,606	2,140	2,365	2,332	1,798
Taylor	1,861	260	2,121	2,378	2,173	1,866	1,852	1,955	2,243	2,235	2,616	2,753
Tucker	903	93	996	1,138	1,141	1,395	1,469	1,275	1,311	1,549	1,601	1,419
Tyler	957	84	1,041	1,024	1,138	1,034	1,148	1,003	1,186	1,035	1,135	1,082
Upshur	4,096	272	4,368	5,159	5,235	5,771	6,087	6,758	5,705	5,752	7,381	6,320
Wayne	4,953	752	5,705	5,264	5,894	6,983	9,298	7,956	5,815	5,623	6,398	5,362
Webster	1,432	182	1,614	1,559	1,533	1,297	1,666	1,589	1,222	1,363	1,477	1,106
Wetzel	1,763	183	1,946	1,576	1,861	1,884	1,434	1,601	1,684	1,620	1,476	1,734
Wirt	995	59	1,054	959	1,176	917	1,021	998	805	1,108	1,278	1,128
Wood	18,210	1,456	19,666	20,873	17,835	16,001	14,068	12,622	13,338	12,671	11,843	12,504
Wyoming	2,510	965	3,475	3,574	3,667	3,987	3,917	3,889	4,362	4,616	3,832	3,769
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>303,320</b>	<b>44,956</b>	<b>348,276</b>	<b>372,093</b>	<b>367,082</b>	<b>362,945</b>	<b>374,922</b>	<b>347,094</b>	<b>358,002</b>	<b>380,908</b>	<b>405,779</b>	<b>385,859</b>