

**Massachusetts Trial Courts**  
**Summary of Case Filings by Type: FY2016 to FY2020\***

	All Court Departments				
	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020
<b>All Case Types</b>	912,757	887,207	846,833	807,244	716,870
<b>Criminal Matters</b>					
Criminal	209,791	197,900	190,661	187,817	154,208
Criminal Show Cause Hearings/ Applications for Complaint	94,607	91,376	103,975	110,524	117,964
Criminal Warrants	8,995	8,226	8,390	8,461	8,399
Sub-Total	313,393	297,502	303,026	306,802	280,571
<b>Civil - Regular</b>					
Civil	61,290	65,240	66,345	57,980	49,833
Servicemembers	13,041	11,448	8,637	6,865	4,801
Sub-Total	74,331	76,688	74,982	64,845	54,634
<b>Civil - Specialized Matters</b>					
Small Claims	84,579	98,439	90,031	80,380	84,340
Supplementary Proceedings	9,736	7,748	7,664	5,522	3,044
Summary Process	40,140	40,503	40,968	39,594	29,164
Restraining/Harassment Orders	44,568	44,522	44,737	43,013	39,638
Mental Health	15,541	16,598	16,675	15,874	14,022
CMVI Appeals	14,632	13,826	8,763	6,948	5,590
Administrative Warrants	11,903	13,482	11,515	5,847	5,931
Other Specialized Civil	4,469	3,995	3,817	5,106	3,899
Sub-Total	225,568	239,113	224,170	202,284	185,628
<b>CMVI Hearings</b>	117,565	99,246	80,814	77,367	59,758
<b>Other Hearings</b>					
Show Cause Hearings (Applications)	14,419	13,175	12,226	9,363	8,363
Non-MV Infraction Civil Hearings	5,869	5,008	3,791	3,484	2,452
Sub-Total	20,288	18,183	16,017	12,847	10,815
<b>Juvenile Matters</b>					
Juvenile Delinquency	9,694	8,674	7,887	5,303	4,839
Youthful Offender	218	151	138	289	230
CRA/CHINS Applications	5,712	5,388	5,227	5,215	3,602
Care & Protection Petitions	3,855	3,462	3,375	3,014	2,864
Sub-Total	19,479	17,675	16,627	13,821	11,535
<b>Probate</b>	39,461	39,653	39,601	38,940	35,719
<b>Guardianship</b>	11,891	12,594	12,653	12,345	9,937
<b>Child Welfare and Adoption</b>	2,346	2,423	2,434	2,661	2,846
<b>Domestic Relations</b>					
Paternity	16,010	15,392	13,292	13,948	15,185
Divorce	23,692	23,500	21,816	21,778	17,787
Modification/Contempt	47,958	44,842	40,578	38,540	31,678
Other Domestic Relations	0	0	355	61	25
Sub-Total	87,660	83,734	76,041	74,327	64,675
<b>Appeals</b>	775	396	468	1,005	752

Due to COVID-19, all departments of the Trial Court were closed to non-emergency business from March 16, 2020 to June 30, 2020.

Not all court departments report *Restraining and Harassment Orders* separately. For reporting purposes they have been combined.

**Probate & Family:** *Guardianship* includes all guardianship case types. FY2019 modification/contempts are approximate, and are estimated to be 1-3% higher than reported.

**Child Welfare and Adoption** includes: *Child welfare* cases in the Probate and Family Court and *young adult permanency hearings* and *adoption* cases in the Juvenile Court.

**Boston Municipal Court:** In FY2018 the Boston Municipal Court changed the method by which it compiles year-end case filings.

**Superior Court:** Prior to FY2019, the "Criminal Case" category included only criminal indictments. In FY2019, this category was expanded to also include: bail petitions, criminal complaints, grand jury matters, SDP appeals, and youthful offender cases.

**Appeals:** Beginning in FY2019, this category reflects *administrative appeals* in the Boston Municipal and District Court Departments, and *appeal to review sentence* in Superior Court. District Court Appellate Division filings are not included.